

as An Actor

prisoner in 'Cool Hand Luke' (1967); the alcoholic lawyer in 'The Hunt for Red October' (1990); the 'serving' of an Academy Award. The late David Thomson wrote of 'The Hunt': 'The winter light got through him into a raw soul.'

Thomson called 'The Verdict' an 'enormous picture, for it shows what is capable of once his aversion to sex can be broken down.'

As if to escape his image as a per-son, Newman turned himself into a race-car driver. He boasts that he is in the Book of World Records as the oldest ever to win the Rolex 24-hour race in 1995, at Daytona Beach, Florida.

He has also turned himself into a tri-thor of major proportions, growing a million over the last 10 years. He has Wall camps for children with seven now, number five. And with his footie Newman's Own, which he owns with the writer A.E. Hotchner, he is finding a successful businessman like his father.

Newman said, 'and the customer seems to be the consuming kind of ambition bigger.'

He is most critical of himself in his early work. Of his first appearances, he said: 'I was just a kid. And in "The Hustler," Newman still see the machine going.'

'But in the end, he believes he failed in performance there, he said, was "a big mistake of the acting was very bad. And in "The Hustler," Newman said, 'he was "getting to tell the truth."

Mr. Jordan, a personal adviser of Mr. Clinton's, spent hours answering questions that presumably touched on the core of the case. He will probably be asked to return later in the week, said his attorney, William H. Huddley.

White House aides, outwardly calm about Mr. Jordan's appearance, said they were pleased that he had been called to testify and were certain his testimony would confirm the president's protestations of innocence.

The investigation of the president's relationship with a young intern, Monica Lewinsky, has reportedly strained Mr. Jordan's ties to president, making the two more "circumspect" with each other, as the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, described it. Mr. Jordan has been absent from some White House functions where he would normally have been expected.

While letting it be known that he has remained friendly with Mr. Clinton, Mr. Jordan has reportedly complained about being called on to handle the Lewinsky matter for Mr. Clinton without being given a full explanation of the reasons. But Mr. Huddley insisted Tuesday that "there is no rift" between the two men.

Mr. Huddley emerged after his client had been in the grand jury room for a few hours Tuesday to tell reporters that Mr. Jordan was "fine, cool," adding, "He's done it before."

Mr. Jordan's long-awaited appearance, after two earlier dates with the grand jury were postponed, appeared to bring the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, closer to the culmination of his investigation. He is examining allegations that Mr. Clinton had an affair with Ms. Lewinsky and then sought to influence her to deny it. Mr. Clinton has insisted the charges are false.

Elizabeth Taylor, 75, has reportedly been in a hospital in suburban Philadelphia. She is in intensive care without her family. Her son, Christopher, has been granted permission to be released from his hospital bed.

Mr. Jordan, right, walking up the steps of the courthouse in Washington on Tuesday.

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INTERNATIONAL

Tribune

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TODAY
STAGE

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Paris, Wednesday, March 4, 1998

No. 35,770

Clinton's Friend Remains 'Cool' In Grand Jury Questioning

Vernon Jordan's Testimony Is Expected to Hasten Close Of Inquiry Into Alleged Affair

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Vernon Jordan, one of President Bill Clinton's closest friends and a central figure in the allegations that Mr. Clinton sought to cover up a sexual relationship with a young woman, testified Tuesday before a grand jury here, and his lawyer said the powerful lobbyist was "fine, cool" and eager to tell the full truth.

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CLINTON, Page 13

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AGENDA

Senate Panel Backs NATO Expansion

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Tuesday approved expanding NATO to include Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic and sent the measure to the full Senate for its expected approval.

The vote was 16 to 2, with some members expressing reservations

about the alliance's future military mission and about enlargement.

The panel chairman, Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, said it appeared the resolution would pass the Senate "on an overwhelmingly positive vote" and called the development "an obvious vote of confidence in the democracies of Eastern Europe."

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In Sudan, the War Staggers On

EUROPE

Russia May Legalize Prostitution

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The Dollar

New York Tuesday @ 4 P.M. previous close
DM 1.8104 1.8143
Pound 1.6515 1.6463
Yen 126.34 125.53
FF 6.07 6.0837
The Dow
Tuesday close previous close
+34.38 8584.83 8550.45
S&P 500
Tuesday previous close
+4.32 1052.02 1047.70

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Paris, Wednesday, March 4, 1998

No. 35,770



Show of Defiance in Kosovo

Thousands of ethnic Albanians gathered Tuesday to mourn and bury some of the 20 people who were killed by the Serbian police in Kosovo Province last weekend. Twenty-one graves were dug, but with Serbian police blocking roads to the town, some vehicles carrying bodies did not make it to the site. Page 6.

China's Annual Rite of Spring

Delegates Gather to Rubber Stamp Party's New Leadership

By Erik Eckholm
New York Times Service

BEIJING — The National People's Congress, an annual public rite that brings together nearly 3,000 delegates from all parts of China, begins Thursday.

This year's session holds more than usual interest because it will ratify important changes in the country's leadership, including a major trimming of the Communist bureaucracy, as well as measures to bolster state-owned state banks.

Opening a new stage in China's quest for a prosperous market economy, the giant meeting is primed to formally elect Zhu Rongji — economic chief for the last several years and a one-time mayor of Shanghai — to the office of prime minister, running the day-to-day operations of government.

He will replace Li Peng who has served the two legally permitted five-year terms and is expected to become chairman of the congress itself, say Chinese experts and foreign diplomats who track Communist Party decisions.

The president and Communist Party leader, Jiang Zemin, 71, will remain preeminent within the circle of senior leaders, who serve on the Politburo and in government posts.

Mr. Zhu, 69, is respected here and abroad for skillfully guiding the economy out of high inflation.

He will take over as China enters a new and painful phase in its economic transition, involving the pruning of vast state industries, remodeling the vulnerable banking system and dismantling the "iron rice bowl" of lifetime jobs and welfare.

His ascension also coincides with a slowdown in the nation's spectacular economic growth and a financial crisis in neighboring Asian countries that will hamper trade and investment.

Known for a sharp mind and blunt speech, Mr. Zhu has already started cracking heads in preparation for this week's congress, forcing through a wary party bureaucracy a plan to cut millions of party and government jobs and dismantle at least 10 of the country's 41 ministries and commissions.

This session of the National People's Congress, which opens Thursday and runs for roughly two weeks, is unlikely to make any major decisions on its own — as always, these were already taken to secret meetings of the Communist Party. But during this annual exercise in "people's democracy," the normally submerged iceberg of Chinese politics floats a little higher, exposing the thinking of the nation's leaders.

The legislature is far from a democratic forum: selection of its 2,980 members is supervised by

See CHINA, Page 8

'No Quick Fixes,' U.S. Emissary Warns Suharto

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service

JAKARTA — Former Vice President Walter Mondale said Tuesday that he had urged President Suharto to press ahead with economic reforms demanded by the International Monetary Fund.

"There are no quick fixes," the American said after a 90-minute meeting during which he said he had delivered a "confidence message" from President Bill Clinton. "President Clinton is concerned over the economic hardships of the Indonesian people," Mr. Mondale said. "The president remains engaged in this issue, and that is the reason why he decided to send me as a personal emissary to meet with President Suharto.

"We discussed the efforts that have taken place to restore stability and economic growth in Indonesia. We also discussed what steps were necessary to restore confidence."

He added, "I believe that the crucial step in restoring confidence is the full, demonstrable, visible implementation of the IMF reforms."

[Japan and France added their voices to Mr. Mondale's push for following the IMF's prescription. Reuters reported.

"I do not like to comment on the policy of the other country, but it is very important when you implement certain programs you investigate the feasibility," the Japanese deputy finance minister for international affairs, Eisuke Sakakibara, said.

[Treasurer Jean Lemaire of France said his

country's support for a plan to guarantee Indonesian lenders of credit depended on the implementation of IMF reforms.

[Megawati Sukarnoputri, an Indonesian opposition leader, pressed Mr. Suharto for a better explanation of the country's economic turmoil.]

Mr. Suharto made no public comment after his meeting with Mr. Mondale. But a spokesman said the president had voiced concern that despite IMF intervention, the Indonesian rupiah had not risen above 30 percent of its value last summer.

President Suharto explained the importance of IMF support because of its high reputation, but the president also explained that there had been no

See INDONESIA, Page 4

Asian Firms Beat a Retreat From U.S.

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — When Hyundai Electronics Industries Co. of South Korea acquired Symbios Inc., a Silicon Valley company it had beaten in the bidding in 1994. The deal, announced Thursday, took less than three weeks to complete at a price of \$775 million, considered low by analysts.

"There's nothing like having an I'm-going-to-sell-this seller and a willing buyer," said F. Grant Sayers, president of Adaptec.

The Asian financial crisis has dealt a body blow to the U.S. operations of South Korean and other Asian companies. Subsidiaries and real estate are

being sold, branch offices closed, people laid off or brought home, and once-ambitious investment plans are being scaled back or put on hold. The impact has been felt most in New York and Los Angeles, where Asian investments and businesses are concentrated.

"Most of the companies in Korea are cutting back," said Young Kim, president of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the United States.

"Every subsidiary in the United States

See KOREA, Page 4



Bill Gates before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, rejecting accusations that he is seeking a monopoly in computer operating systems.

Gates Goes to Washington

Software King Defends Microsoft to Senators

Furious in Our Soft-Fair Defense

WASHINGTON — Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee closely questioned Bill Gates, the richest American, on Tuesday, in hearings on competition in the U.S. software market that focused on whether Microsoft Corp. should be regulated as a monopoly.

Mr. Gates held his temper and put in a generally good performance under the scrutiny. He rejected charges that his company holds a monopoly in computer operating systems — the company's Windows software is on about 90 percent of new units sold around the world — to control the English language.

"We think, left unchecked, Microsoft has a monopoly position that they could use to leverage their way into

See GATES, Page 13

Riven by War/ 'Like the Americans in Vietnam'

The Misery of Stalemate in Sudan

By James C. McKinley Jr.
New York Times Service

JUBA, Sudan — Six days a week, Captain Dewhi Mustafa bridges the gap between two worlds separated by religion, race and decades of civil war. Each morning, he pilots a cargo jet loaded with food and fuel from Sudan's mostly Arab and Muslim capital, Khartoum, and flies hundreds of kilometers up the Nile to the port of Juba, the economic hub of the mostly Christian southern region, and a government outpost surrounded by rebel forces.

"I myself believe that it would be better to be two states," the former air force fighter pilot confides, echoing the view of many Sudanese Arabs in the north who are weary of the fighting. "We need to reach this point of truth. We can't live together."

For nearly a year, Juba has been isolated by the latest series of rebel offensives. For months, rebel leaders in Nairobi have predicted that this major river port, which controls access to the lower Nile, is about to fall. Yet the town has remained defiantly in the hands of the government, supplied only by air and river barge, and its isolation is in many ways emblematic of the stalemate that this conflict has become.

But even if it is isolated, Juba is not on the point of collapse. To a visitor, it is not even obvious that it is under siege. The streets are calm. There are no fortifications or heavy artillery ringing the town, and there are no distant sounds of war to be heard.

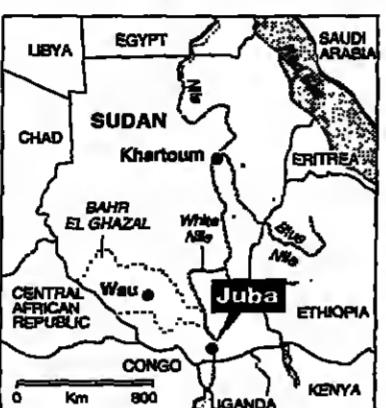
Though prices are high, the markets seem well stocked with food, shoes, clothes, tools and handicrafts. And although the town is a government stronghold, Islamic laws are not enforced.

For 15 years, southern rebel groups have been fighting successive Arab-dominated governments for more autonomy, racial equality and religious freedom. More than 1 million people are believed to have died in fighting or in famines caused by the conflict.

Since last March, the main rebel faction, the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, has stepped up its offensives in the south with some help from Uganda, Eritrea and Ethiopia, which dislike the Khartoum government because it supports rebel insurrections in their own countries.

In late January, the rebels attacked and briefly held three large towns in the southwest before being beaten back. northern opposition leaders have opened a second front in the east, raiding Sudan from bases in Eritrea.

In spite of this onslaught, the government continues to



control major towns in the south like Juba and most transportation routes. The Liberation Army, under the command of John Garang, holds a strip of land and at least eight sizable towns along the southern border, as well as two towns in the southwestern state of Bahr el Ghazal.

Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Sudanese military officers say. But the rebel forces continue to bevel government troops with guerrilla tactics in the countryside, inflicting a steady stream of casualties and costing the north at least \$1 million a day.

"It's like the Americans in Vietnam," a Sudanese military officer based in the southwestern town of Wan said. "We control all the towns and some of the small villages near those towns. The rebels have the bush. There is no need for us to control the bush. Sometimes we try to chase them."

The conflict, dragging into its fourth decade, began its current phase when the government adopted Islamic law in 1983. Many northerners like Captain Mustafa are ready to seek peace at any cost, even if it means letting the south secede.

The government has pinned its hopes on a peace agreement it reached with the leaders of five small rebel factions in April of last year. The agreement exempts the southern states from Islamic law and calls for a referendum on independence within four years. But Colonel Garang has rejected the accord, saying his fighters want a united Sudan with a secular state. Peace talks between the government and Colonel Garang are supposed to resume in April.

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In Khartoum, where high school students are being inducted into the army as soon as they pick up their diplomas, more and more young men are dodging the draft. Recruiters have begun arresting young men of draft age on huses and at traffic roadblocks, press-ganging them into military service without telling their families, anti-war advocates say.

Some families have sent their teenage sons abroad on tourist visas. Others are keeping their sons from graduating to avoid the draft. In December dozens of mothers were arrested after they protested against the war in the capital.

"We go to the market, everyone is talking about how I'm not sending my son anymore to final exams," one of the organizers of the protest, Fawzia Fadil, said. "This is killing our children."

But even as the anti-war sentiment here gathers momentum, conservatives in the north have tried to turn the conflict into a religious crusade. The Islamic party that controls the government has portrayed the most recent rebel offensives as the work of foreign powers, especially the United States and its

residents said.

At the same time, the population of the town has swollen as tens of thousands of frightened people have flooded into Juba from rebel-held towns farther south in the last five years. It now stands at about 650,000. UN officials say that in the last year, at least 36,000 refugees from the fighting have arrived here.



Rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, training in the Nuba Mountains, have kept the major cities of the south isolated, but they have been unable to deal a decisive military blow.

ally in the region: Uganda, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Some conservative Muslims have responded to the government's call for what hard-liners in the governing party call a jihad, or holy war, against foreign invaders. Last year, for instance, 17 young volunteers mounted suicide missions to stop rebel tanks and armored personnel carriers from reaching Juba. The soldiers strapped bombs to their bodies, climbed onto the tanks 40 kilometers (25 miles) outside town and detonated the charges.

FOR JUBA in the last year, the growing war has meant isolation, high prices and more hunger. Every day, four Boeing 707s arrive from Khartoum, carrying flour, onions, sugar and fuel, at a cost of nearly \$15,000 a flight. Every few days a large full of goods arrives from Khartoum. Though the markets are still full of goods, the prices are out of the reach of many people, merchants and residents said.

"Definitely they support the rebels, but quietly, not openly," he said. In private, several Sudanese military officers acknowledged that the war cannot be won as long as the rebels receive support from neighboring countries.

On the other side, rebel officials acknowledge that they have no hope of taking over a country half the size of the United States. Their aim, they say, is to wear the National Islamic Front's government down, sapping its resources until it falls.

"It is very difficult here, you know," said Skopos Godi Abina, a traditional chief who represents thousands of displaced Kuku tribesmen in Juba. "One is hungry, and the hunger brings weakness and disease, and there is the lack of medicine. We lost many people, especially old people and young children."

Reporters who visited Juba recently were accompanied everywhere by military officers, and many people declined to talk about the rebels or their popular support with military officers present. One man said some Christians in the city were sympathetic to Colonel Garang's forces. The south has been neglected for years by northern governments, he said. The town has only a few paved roads, one faded college and few government buildings. Most people live in traditional mud houses with thatched roofs.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

3 Pyramids Opened to Public

Cairo (AP) — Three royal pyramids belonging to the mother and two wives of Cheops, builder of Egypt's largest pyramid, were opened to the public for the first time Tuesday, together with 10 Old Kingdom tombs.

The pyramids are dedicated to Queen Hetepheres, mother of Cheops, and his wives, Queen Merit-Atum and Queen Henutsen, antiquities officials said during a ceremony that also included the reopening of the Mykerinos pyramid after one year of restoration work.

The Queues pyramids, located southeast of Cairo, are less than 10 meters (33 feet) tall and consist of a funerary chamber with bare walls that can be reached from a steep ramp. They are located on the east side of Cheops. The tombs of nine nobles and a son of Mykerinos, builder of the smallest pyramid among the famous Giza trio, were also opened for the first time.

In the newly restored Mykerinos pyramid, a ventilation system was installed to provide visitors with clean air.

Swissair Heads to East Europe

ZURICH (AP) — Swissair will begin operating flights to five East European destinations starting May 1. The destinations are the Latvian capital, Riga, four times a week; the Azerbaijani capital, Baku, and the city of Samara in Russia, three times a week, as well as twice-weekly flights to the Armenian capital, Yerevan, and the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.

Italian railroad unions called a one-day strike for March 13 to protest a decision to dismiss three state railroad workers involved in two separate crashes in 1987. The largest of the unions also called for a strike March 11. (AP)

A Korean Air cargo jet flying from New York to Seoul on Tuesday became the first commercial South Korean plane to cross North Korean controlled airspace since the Korean War. North Korean airspace is to open to international flights starting April 23. In the meantime, Pyongyang has begun allowing international flights to use its airspace on a trial basis. (Reuters)

Poland Takes Over Cloister Near Auschwitz

The Associated Press

WARSAW — Carmelite monks have turned over a former cloister opposite the Auschwitz death camp in the state clearing the way for removal of a wooden cross that was the focus of Jewish protests.

But two government spokesmen said they were seeking an agreement with Jewish groups to retain the 16-foot cross commemorating a 1979 papal Mass at the site.

An Interior Ministry official, Boguslaw Skretta, said he hoped a compromise could be reached.

Krzysztof Sliwinski, a government liaison to the Jewish Diaspora, suggested that instead of removing the cross, it should be cut down to a smaller size and be moved to a less prominent location at the site.

The spokesman for the Catholic Church in Poland, Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, said the suggestions were unauthorized and did not conform with

agreements worked out with the Vatican and local church authorities to remove the cross.

News have long been upbeat about the placement of Catholic symbols at or near Auschwitz, and protested the papal cross located about 80 feet (25 meters) from the former Nazi death camp.

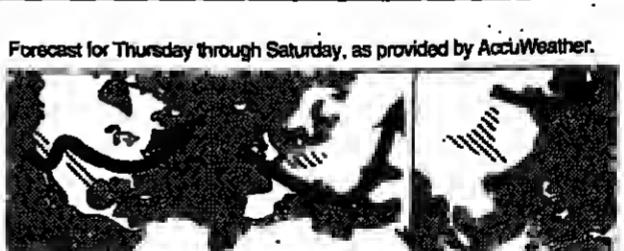
The government announced two weeks ago that the cross would be removed before it took ownership of the former cloister and that the Culture Ministry planned to build a monument to executed prisoners where the cross now stands.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, in the southern city of Oswiecim, was built in 1940. By 1945, some 1.5 million people, mostly Jews, died there in gas chambers or from hunger, disease and cold.

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WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



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Asia

Today Tomorrow

High Temp Low Temp

City City

Almaty 0°C -41°C 5°C -52°C

Beijing 23°C 22°C 23°C 23°C

Beijing 14°C 10°C 14°C 15°C

Beijing 14°C 10°C 14°C 15°C</p

ASIA/PACIFIC

Defying Foes In Parliament, Kim Appoints Prime Minister

By Don Kirk
International Herald Tribune

SEOUL — President Kim Dae Jung defied the political opposition Tuesday, naming a conservative coalition partner acting prime minister.

The appointment, announced the day after the national assembly dissolved in a fist-swinging melee and failed to confirm Kim Jong Pil as prime minister, set the stage for a protracted struggle between the executive and legislative branches of a government mired in economic difficulties.

Mr. Kim appealed to the opposition, Grand National Party to support Kim Jong Pil "for one year in the interests of the nation and the people." But Cho Soon, leader of the opposition party, attacked the appointment as "invalid and illegal, null and void" and vowed to combat it politically and legally.

Kim Dae Jung, elected president with 40 percent of the votes in December after allying with Kim Jong Pil, 72, a former prime minister and founder of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, formed a "coalition" cabinet that includes a dozen members of his own and Kim Jong Pil's parties.

The most controversial choice may be that of Lee Kyu Sung, 59, a professor who served as finance minister under Roh Tae Woo, a former general who was jailed for corruption, and now assumes the same post. Mr. Lee was appointed after Kim Jong Pil's top economic adviser, Kim Yong Hwan, a key figure behind Kim Jong Pil in the national assembly, turned down the job and recommended him instead.

Mr. Lee promised "to be timely in coming up with policies needed to push restructuring" of the economy as demanded by the International Monetary Fund in return for piecing together a \$60 billion package for rescuing Korea from the brink of bankruptcy in December.

But Mr. Lee, as Mr. Roh's finance minister from December 1988 to March 1990, is remembered for having forced the Bank of Korea to loan the equivalent in Korean currency of more than \$3 billion to Korean trust companies, which they in turn loaned to major listed companies then confronted with the possibility of bankruptcy. The rationale was that the companies had to have the money to bolster the Korean stock exchange and keep the economy from deteriorating.

Mr. Lee hinted that he might not move



President Kim Dae Jung, center, toasting his newly appointed cabinet members at a dinner in Seoul on Tuesday. At left is Finance Minister Lee Kyu Sung; at right is National Unification Minister Kang In Duk.

as swiftly against the nation's conglomerates, known as *chaebol*, as Kim Dae Jung has promised in recent weeks. He remarked that the government would "make every effort to minimize the costs needed to reform the *chaebol*."

Critics point out that Mr. Lee's approach directly counters the free-market

principles advanced by the IMF and epitomized the habit of Korean companies of borrowing increasingly huge loans that they are now unable to repay without emergency aid. "Lee's personality is quite contrary to Kim Dae Jung's reform program," said Sub Jin Young, a professor at Korea University.

INDONESIA: 'No Quick Fixes,' Mondale Tells Suharto in Urging Painful IMF Reforms

Continued from Page 1

convincing signs that the rupiah will recover in the short term," the spokesman said.

"The president stated that he will implement the program led by the IMF," he added. "However, the 'plus' in 'IMF-plus' is to find ways to stabilize the rupiah at a fair level."

A term first used by the president in a speech Sunday, "IMF-plus" is among other things an assertion that Jakarta need not slavishly follow the dictates of outside agencies.

The issue of national sovereignty has risen to the surface as international pressure grows on Indonesia to take austerity measures that are already causing inflation, food shortages and unemployment.

In his speech Sunday, Mr. Suharto said he was continuing to consider a quick-fix plan to raise the value of the rupiah artificially by creating an independent monetary board.

Mr. Mondale said he had discussed that plan with Mr. Suharto, although he noted that he had not "come here" as an economic specialist or a negotiator on behalf of the IMF."

But he said: "The way to deal with the severe currency problems faced by Indonesia is to deal with the underlying

problems. There are no quick fixes that provide an alternative. If the IMF program is implemented, this will help in restoring confidence."

While backing away from plans for an immediate peg for the rupiah, Mr. Suharto has kept the option open. Whether or not he proceeds with it, some analysts say, it is proving a useful bargaining chip and a symbol of his autonomy.

"I think he is trying to show that he does not want to be dependent on the IMF," which has offered a \$40 billion

support payment of new funds from the IMF rescue package unless Jakarta made progress on reforms, Reuters reported.

Mr. Mondale is the second high-level envoy from Mr. Clinton, in January, Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers paid a visit. Shortly afterward, Mr. Suharto signed a tacit accord demanded by the IMF that would overhaul an economic culture weakened by corruption and cartels.

In Washington, Mr. Summers said Tuesday that the United States would not

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envoy from Mr. Clinton, in January, Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers paid a visit. Shortly afterward,

Mr. Suharto signed a tacit accord demanded by the IMF that would overhaul an economic culture weakened by corruption and cartels.

"To achieve a stable currency," he added, Jakarta must "attack some of the problems of crony capitalism."

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EUROPE

Ethnic Albanians Mourn the Dead

30,000 Gather at Kosovo Village Where 20 Were Killed by Serb Police

The Associated Press

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Evading police roadblocks by following dirt roads and footpaths, about 30,000 ethnic Albanians gathered in a show of defiance Tuesday to mourn and bury some of the 20 people who were killed by the Serbian police in Kosovo Province last weekend.

Tens of thousands of bands waved the "V for victory" sign as nine bodies were brought to the funeral site near the village of Cirez, 40 kilometers (25 miles) west of Pristina, the provincial capital.

A total of 21 graves were dug — an indication of the death count, which is still undetermined. But with heavily armed Serbian policemen blocking main roads to the town, some vehicles carrying bodies apparently did not make it to the funeral site.

Murat Musliu, sitting with other mourners on a hill overlooking the funeral site, spoke bitterly of the killings that followed an ambush in which two Serbian policemen were killed.

"After what happened here, there is no possibility that we can live with them together again," he said.

At their burial in Pancevo, near Belgrade, the two Serbian policemen killed by Albanian militants were eulogized by Miroslav Mijanovic, a police commander, as "Kosovo knights who fell victims to Albanian gangs."

Ethnic Albanians, who make up more than 90 percent of Kosovo's 2 million people, have been pushing for independence from Serbia, which abolished the province's autonomy in 1989 before the dissolution of the old Yugoslavia. Belgrade soon introduced military rule and has cracked down on all signs of dissent.

Kosovo has simmered with violence ever since.

The violence in Cirez and the surrounding villages was the worst since a clandestine group known as the Kosovo Liberation Army surfaced in 1996 to wrest Kosovo from Serbian rule. The province's ethnic Albanian leadership had been waging a campaign of non-violence before that — ignoring Belgrade and establishing and running its own administrative and educational organizations.

The bloodshed over the weekend began when rebels killed the two Serbian officers in an ambush.

A Western diplomat in Pristina said witnesses of a police sweep after the

ambush asserted that angry policemen dragged a family from their home in Cirez, beat them and executed them.

Veton Surroi, an analyst in Pristina, said witnesses in Cirez had also told him that the Ahmeti family was shot from close range by policemen.

The reports could not be independently confirmed, but local journalists displayed photographs of other victims who they said were victims of police brutality, indicating that people were shot from close range.

The United States, the European Union and Russia have condemned the violence, and Foreign Secretary Robin Cook of Britain has gone to Belgrade to discuss the crisis in Kosovo.

In the harshest U.S. criticism yet of the crackdown on ethnic Albanians, Robert Gelbard, the top U.S. envoy to the Balkans, warned that President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia was risking the collapse of his government if the violence is not brought under control.

"President Milosevic is well aware that the United States will not tolerate violence, and violence will be met by the most dire consequences imaginable," Mr. Gelbard said. "That will be the end of his government without any question."

Three days of violence in Kosovo have sparked fears of a broader conflict that could spill into the neighboring Balkan nations of Macedonia and Albania.

The Tanjug press agency of Yugoslavia reported that a Kosovo Serb died early Tuesday after he was wounded in an attack by ethnic Albanian rebels.

The Serbian police broke up a rally in Pristina on Monday of about 30,000 ethnic Albanians who were protesting the weekend killings of their compatriots. More than 40 people were reportedly hurt as the police waded into crowds and beat protesters.

■ Greece Appeals for Restraint

The Greek government appealed to the Yugoslav authorities for restraint on Tuesday and said it was sending Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos to Belgrade for talks, Reuters reported from Athens.

"Mr. Pangalos's visit to Belgrade on Friday will offer a very good opportunity to discuss the recent developments and seek a solution to the problem," said a government spokesman, Dimitris Reppas.

Greece, which is trying to position itself as a leader in the region, again offered to mediate in the dispute.

"Greece is ready to offer its good services as a Balkan country and a member of the European Union," Mr. Reppas said. "We believe reason will prevail; all sides will show self-restraint and wisdom to defuse the tension that threatens the region."

Greece has good relations with Albania and supports the tiny, poor Balkan state with aid and expertise, but it is also fellow Christian Orthodox Yugoslavia's closest ally in the West.

Western countries have hinted to President Milosevic that they would reinforce sanctions against him if he failed to rein in his policemen and negotiate with Albanian political leaders in Kosovo who are seeking autonomy for the province.

Careful not to take sides in the dispute, the Greek Foreign Ministry issued a statement expressing concern.

It said that Athens would back any initiative to open negotiations, "to find a solution that will both respect the sovereignty and unity of Yugoslavia and the rights of the Albanian majority in Kosovo."



Mourners carrying one of those killed by the police to burial Tuesday in the village of Cirez in Kosovo Province.

As Prostitution Booms, Russia Weighs Legalization

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

SARATOV, Russia — When Lena, 20, arrived at a seedy hotel here after a call from the Amazonka escort service dispatcher, she felt fortunate. The client took one look at her waist-length, platinum-blond hair and chose her over the two other prostitutes the dispatcher had sent over for his inspection.

But her luck soured when a vice detective knocked on the hotel room door, ordered her to get dressed and put her into an unmarked police van. The nice young client turned out to be an undercover police officer.

At the station, however, it was the police who felt unlucky. The three prostitutes, their driver and pimp were processed, fined the maximum penalty of \$14 and back on the street in less time than it took the undercover police officer to register at the hotel.

As reasons to legalize prostitution.

Plenty of officials in other cities with similar problems, notably St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad, are also debating legalization.

But Dmitri Ayatskov is the first regional governor in Russia to take the plunge and sponsor legislation to open government brothels.

If he has his way, licensed prostitutes would work freely in a designated area — provided they are of age, pass regular health inspections, register their clients and pay taxes.

The local legislature is set to vote on a law that would legalize prostitution. Even if it passes a bill, Saratov is unlikely to become another Amsterdam overnight. For one thing, such a bill would clash with federal law and would almost certainly be challenged on constitutional grounds.

"We have to do something," Lieutenant Demikhov said. His men, he said, recently arrested a 12-year-old girl selling herself on the street who told the police she was trying to raise enough money to buy a Barbie doll. "We cannot go on like this," he said.

Before the revolution, the czarist government allowed public brothels to operate, but they were strictly controlled. Even people who support legalization for health reasons express doubts that government brothels could work in today's more lawless society.

"In Russia, the state is absolutely unable to protect prostitutes," said Igor Kohn, an expert on Russian sexuality. "If it happens, they will have to pay both the state and their criminal 'protectors.'"

The police say that there are more than 80 escort services operating in Saratov, a city of one million people. In January, the governor and the local legislature banned escort services from advertising in local newspapers, yet the trade continued unabated, as escort services distributed business cards and leaflets.

The Russian Orthodox Church and the Communist Party are strongly against legalization. So are many local residents. But the people who deal with

Upon their release, as the women greeted each other with janny, knowing smiles, Lieutenant Andrei Demikhov let his frustration spill over. "The laws don't work," he said. "If women want to work as prostitutes, there is nothing we can do to stop it."

That sense of futility is one reason the Saratov police force, the local governor and many other local officials are behind a drive to legalize prostitution here.

In this industrial town on the Volga, an ailing economy and wages that rarely top \$40 a month have driven hundreds of women — teachers, nurses, single mothers, even school girls — to work as prostitutes. And that has fomented organized crime and a staggering rise in venereal disease, AIDS and tuberculosis. Syphilis rates alone are four times higher than they were three years ago.

All these disturbing trends are cited as reasons to legalize prostitution.

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The Russian Orthodox Church and the Communist Party are strongly against legalization. So are many local residents. But the people who deal with

the grimmer consequences of illegal prostitution in Saratov every day say they are desperate for some kind of change in the law.

If it was legal, we could at least examine the women regularly and treat them," said Olga Pron, deputy director of the regional skin and venereal diseases clinic in Saratov. Dr. Pron said she sees 15 to 20 new patients a day, and that could be a fraction of those infected.

"If the governor can really push this through and legalize prostitution," she said. "We will build him a monument."

There is less enthusiasm among prostitutes themselves. Lena for one said that they were not sure that legalization would make their lives any easier.

Mostly, they seemed worried that aspects of legalization, especially keeping a registry of clients, would inhibit business.

At the station, Lena was scared and dejected over her first arrest for prostitution, but she gave no indication that she wanted to turn back.

"If I could work as a nurse and be paid decently, then believe me, I wouldn't work as a prostitute," she said grimly. She and her co-worker Larisa, 24, who was arrested in the car as she and another prostitute were leaving the hotel, are both nurses. Until they changed careers, they were earning \$30 a month at a local hospital.

As prostitutes, they have not exactly become rich, however.

Prostitution is a growth industry in

every way except profits. Escort services charge \$25 an hour. The prostitute keeps about \$10, and the rest is divided between the driver, the pimp, the escort service owner — and whomever the service pays for protection. On a really good night, which is rare, Larisa said she could clear \$80 — more than teachers or factory workers here make in a month.

It is not a glamorous life. Even the women who work for escort services — a step up from the streetwalkers they risk theft and brutality every time they duck into an alley or climb into a client's car — described in chilling detail the threat of disease, gang rape and beatings.

But when asked if she thought legalization would provide her with police protection, Irina, 27, who works for Amazonka, looked puzzled.

"But we already have our own police protection, our *krisha*," she said, using the Russian word for "roof," used to describe either racketeers or corrupt police officers who provide protection from prosecution — at a price.

Corruption is as potent here as the rest of Russia. And not even the most ardent reformers believe that corruption will dry up if prostitution is legalized.

"We have to be realistic," said Aleksandr Lando, chairman of the regional human rights commission. "The most we can expect is to get some measure of control over the spread of AIDS and venereal disease, and maybe, collect some tax money."

A Low-Tech Problem on Mir

3 Broken Wrenches Thwart a Planned Spacewalk

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's efforts to keep its multibillion-dollar space station going hit a new snag Tuesday when the crew was forced to cancel a spacewalk because they ran out of wrenches.

The latest setback on the ailing station came when the crew was unable to open the hatch leading to outer space after breaking all three of their wrenches. Embarrassed officials said the spacewalk would have to wait until a new supply of the simple metal tools could be sent up to Mir on the next supply ship.

I am somewhat distressed about the fact that we have failed to open the hatch. One of the tools was closed so tightly that Nikolai Budarin, a physically strong man, broke three wrenches and still failed to open the last of 10 locks," Mirissio Control chief Vladimir Solov'yov said.

The spacewalk would probably be rescheduled for April, he said.

The cosmonauts, who were to have worked on a solar panel damaged in a

collision last summer, were told to spend the rest of Tuesday resting.

The latest glitch will stir concerns that Mir is no longer safe to operate, but Russian authorities want to keep it in orbit at least until a new international space station becomes operational next year.

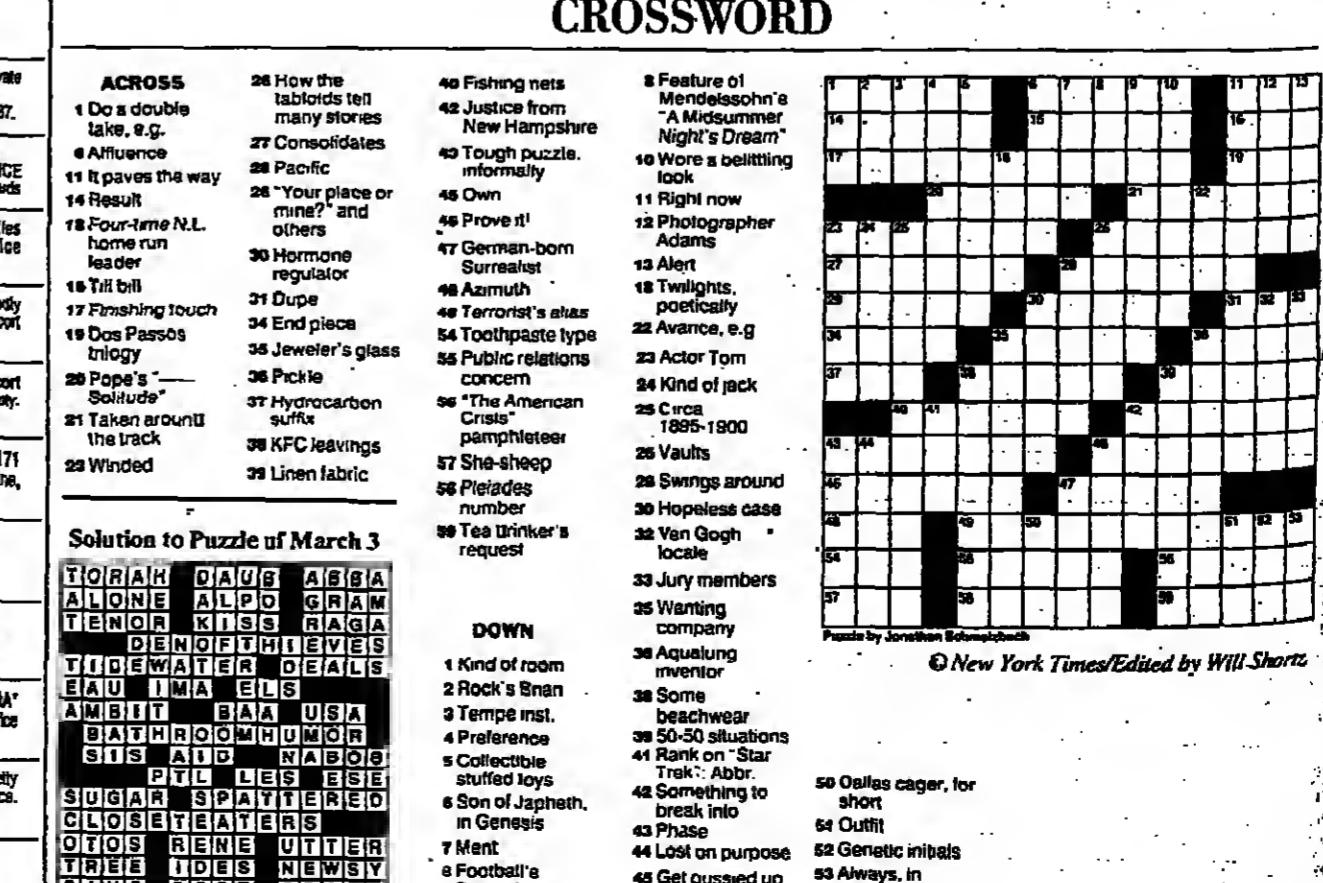
Ground Control officials said the station was in no danger despite canceling the spacewalk. Mir, dogged since last year by problems, had appeared to be faring better after a recent series of spacewalks.

The hatch, like other parts of Mir, suffers from age and constant use long past the original plan. Mir, which marked its 12th year in orbit last month, was originally designed to last just five.

A stock of wrenches, simple metal tools used to tighten and release nuts and bolts, would be put on the cargo ship scheduled to be sent up to Mir on March 15, Mr. Solov'yov said.

The spacewalk was to have been the first for the current crew, which joined Mir in January.

CROSSWORD



INTERNATIONAL

Ballooning 'Round the World: The Dream Endures, but Reality IntrudesBy Malcolm W. Browne
*New York Times Service***NEW YORK** — If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. But what if your goal is simply unattainable?

Take the three-minute mile. Dr. Roger Bannister, the English neurologist who confounded the experts in 1954 by running a mile (1.6 kilometers) in under four minutes, has declared that shaving off another full minute is physiologically impossible. Absolute rules decreed by the limitations of the human body will forever prevent the running of a three-minute mile, Dr. Bannister believes, and all the trying in the world will not change things.

Similarly, engineers have calculated that even if space travelers one day succeed in reaching stars beyond the sun, they can never travel to galaxies outside the Milky Way. Unyielding reality seems to rule out such trips.

On a much more modest scale, it has begun to look as if the odds are also against completing a nonstop balloon trip around the world.

Last week, the latest global balloon season

ended in dismal failure when the crew of Britain's *Virgin Global Challenger*, the last of five balloons in this year's running, gave up for this year.One of the balloons in the competition, Switzerland's *Breitling Orbiter 2*, at least established a new endurance record by staying aloft for 9 days 17 hours 55 minutes — longer even than the 9 days 4 minutes it took for Richard Rutan and Jeana Yeager to fly their unrefueled *Voyager* airplane nonstop around the world in 1986.

But uncooperative jet-stream winds, technical flaws, piloting errors, shortages of money and the refusal of several nations, including China, to grant overflight permission conspired to defeat all the balloonists who tried this year. The round-the-world ballooning season is limited by wind patterns to December through February.

Balloonists have been trying to circle the world nonstop for more than a century, and their track record is discouraging.

Of at least 22 attempts since 1873, not one came even close. Two balloons vanished, one burst in midair, five balloonists were killed and

several were injured; this year alone, two would be round-the-worlders were seriously hurt.

There has been no lack of ingenuity and innovation over the years, although the basic buoyancy system adopted by all the competitors in the attempt this year was invented two centuries ago by a young French physicist, Jean-François Pilatre de Rozier. A Rozier balloon is buoyed both by a light gas (hydrogen or helium) and hot air. Aside from the fact that Mr. Rozier himself was killed flying such a balloon in 1785 — thus winning distinction as the first human to be killed in an air accident — the Rozier system has worked fairly well in its later incarnations.

Ballast, essential to all lighter-than-air flying, has changed from lead shot, sand or water to bismuth shot, empty fuel tanks and even compressed air. The *Earthwinds* balloons captained by Larry Newman, which tried unsuccessfully in the 1980s and 1990s to circle the world, were equipped with compressed-air ballast "anchor" balloons that gave them a distinctive hourglass shape.

Other innovations include metalized plastic films to reflect sunlight and reduce gas over-

heating, automatic pilots that can maintain a balloon's altitude while the aeronaut sleeps, a global-positioning satellite navigation system and pressurized crew capsules.

The first pressurized balloon gondola was built and flown to an altitude of 51,774 feet (15,780 meters) in 1931 by August Picard, the grandfather of Bertrand Picard, commander of the *Breitling* balloon. The *Breitling* capsule was also pressurized.

But the lure of long-distance ballooning has nothing to do with technology than with adventure.

In 1844, Edgar Allan Poe entreated readers of *The New York Sun* with his gripping account — a complete hoax — of a balloon journey across the Atlantic Ocean. In truth, no balloonist succeeded in crossing the Atlantic until 1978, but hoax or not, Poe's "news" and its later retraction sold newspapers by the ton.

Perhaps the ultimate in low-tech, high-risk ballooning came in 1982, when Larry Walters, a North Hollywood, California, truck driver, tied 45 helium-filled weather balloons to a lawn chair and took off.

After climbing to 16,000 feet he descended safely by popping some of the balloons with a BB gun.

Each failed attempt to circle the world generally plunges a balloonist into gloom, but hope springs eternal.

Steve Fossett, the U.S. commodities broker who holds the world's balloon distance record (10,360 miles), tried again this year and made it only from St. Louis, Missouri, to Krasnodar, Russia. Exhausted and cold, he told interviewers after landing that he no longer believed a balloon with an unpressurized capsule like his could make it around the world.

But by last week he had changed his mind. Fresh from setting a new speed record for cross-country skiing, Mr. Fossett said last week that he had been mistaken, adding, "It is possible to fly around the world in an unpressurized capsule, and chances of success next year will be better than ever."

He may or may not be right. But the greatness of the human spirit is less in succeeding than in raising a fist against the impossible.

BRIEFLY

Colombian Army Goes on High Alert**BOGOTA** — Colombia's military was put on maximum alert Tuesday in an effort to curb violence leading up to nationwide legislative elections on Sunday.

The armed forces' high command said leave had been suspended for all members of the security forces.

More than 20 million Colombians are eligible to vote for 102 senators and 181 members of the House of Representatives. Marxist rebels, who have called for a boycott of the poll on the grounds that it will perpetuate a corrupt system, control about half the country. (Reuters)

Haiti Seeks Return Of Junta Leaders**PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI** — Haiti has asked Panama, Honduras and the United States to extradite 10 leaders of a 1991 military coup so they can be tried on murder and torture charges, officials of the Foreign Affairs Ministry said Monday.

The requests were made two weeks ago under warrants issued in December that accused the leader of the former military junta, Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras; the former police chief, Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Michel Franco; General Philippe Biamby, and seven other soldiers of carrying out murder, torture and illegal arrests during their three-year rule.

Human-rights groups contend that about 3,000 people were killed under the military government, which ruled Haiti from the time Jean-Bertrand Aristide was ousted as president in 1991 until he was returned to power by a U.S.-led force in 1994. (Reuters)

Mexican Judge Is Suspended**MEXICO CITY** — Mexico City's highest court has suspended for three months a judge who freed the suspected killer of a U.S. businessman, a court spokeswoman said.

The spokeswoman said the Superior Tribunal of Justice decided to punish Judge Maria Claudia Campuzano because of procedural mistakes in the freeing of Alfonso Gonzalez Sanchez. He was captured last month. (Reuters)

For the Record

Riot policemen in Lagos fired tear gas Tuesday to disperse dozens of protesters rallying here against the military rule of General Sani Abacha, witnesses said. In Abuja, meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of people rallied to support calls for General Abacha to stay in power despite his promise to restore civilian rule in October. (Reuters)

Rights in Hong Kong Are Facing Time of Trial**Survival of Rule of Law Under China Is at Issue**By Philip Segal
*International Herald Tribune***HONG KONG** — The scope of civil rights and the rule of law in Hong Kong is being tested in a series of court cases and government decisions that will draw a clearer, and potentially more ominous picture of life under Chinese rule.

They are expected to address the issue of whether Chinese officials in Hong Kong are subject to its laws, whether Hong Kong's courts would be free to rule on local law even if it upset Beijing, and whether free speech would continue as before.

A Hong Kong government decision last week was seen by opposition politicians as giving Chinese officials a wide berth around the territory's privacy law.

The privacy law, which came into effect in late 1996, allows individuals to know who has personal data on them, imposes time limits on how long the data can be held and allows individuals to request a copy of it from government offices or businesses. The material is supposed to be handed over within 40 days of the request.

Emily Lau, a pro-democracy politician, decided to test the new law almost immediately by requesting her personal files from the Hong Kong office of the Xinhua press agency, which functioned as Beijing's de facto consulate in Hong Kong before the former British colony was returned to China last July.

After 10 months, Miss Lau received a one-line note from Xinhua denying her request.

She complained to Hong Kong's Privacy Commissioner, a local appointee, who agreed she had a right to her files and forwarded his conclusion to the government that her complaint was valid.

The Justice Department responded Friday by saying it would not take action against Xinhua for refusing to release the personal files of Miss Lau and another person, whom it did not identify.

The case is one of several that in the

CHINA: Party's Annual Rite

Continued from Page 1

the provincial and county party units. But it has evolved into a more active body, with a year-round professional staff helping to iron out the details of new laws, missions sent to the provinces to check on the implementation of laws and delegates more openly voicing concerns about, say, crime or unemployment, sometimes with protest votes.

"If the image of a rubber stamp hasn't altogether been wiped out, at least it has become a stamp made of better quality rubber," said Zhou Wangsheng, a professor of law at Beijing University. Still, the congress has never reversed an important party decision, and no one expects that to happen this year.

Party leaders see the legislature not as supplanting their power, but as ensuring that policies and laws are better carried out, a Western diplomat said. At the same time, he noted, the gathering in Beijing even of hand-picked delegates serves a communications role.

"It's a valve through which discontent with government policy gets vented," the Western diplomat said.

At this session, the departing prime minister, Mr. Li, 69, is expected to be named chairman of the National People's Congress, replacing Qiao Shi, 73, who was a rival of President Jiang's and has been pushed aside.

Mr. Li is unpopular among liberals here, who do not forgive him his role in suppressing the 1989 student protest movement in Tiananmen Square. But President Jiang has clearly found him a valuable ally, perhaps useful for placating the remaining "old guard" and the conservatives.

In one curious effect of the expected changes, Mr. Li will remain ranked No. 2 in the Communist Party politburo, with Mr. Zhu as No. 3, even though Mr. Zhu will hold the more powerful government job.

How well the two will be able to work together in their respective five-year terms is one of the open questions of the coming years.

As the meeting approaches, dozens of dissidents or their relatives in China have made public calls for freeing imprisoned democracy advocates, allowing free elections or barring Mr. Li from office. A few have reportedly been detained.

coming weeks or months could redraw the limits of the authorities' power in Hong Kong. They could also define how far Hong Kong's courts can go in interpreting the Basic Law, the mini-constitution that Beijing drafted for Hong Kong, and the document that is supposed to guarantee the continuation of the free-wheeling way of life overseen by the British before their departure last year.

"The government is afraid to take legal action against Xinhua," said Miss Lau, of the Frontier Party. "I think it's most reprehensible."

A spokesman for the Democratic Party of Hong Kong, the territory's most popular party, said, "This means the rule of law applies to everyone unless you're a government official or Xinhua."

In a letter written Monday, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Grenville Cross, declined to explain the decision and took issue with allegations that Xinhua had received special treatment.

"The law was in no sense sidestepped," he wrote, adding that to reveal the reasons for not proceeding with a case could lead to guilt by "public censure."

One of the most important untested new rules in the Basic Law is the one which for the first time in Hong Kong outlaws "subversion." China's hand-picked provisional legislature has not yet introduced a bill to enforce the article of the Basic Law.

But late last year, a private citizen filed a writ in court asking that two pro-democracy groups be disbanded on the grounds that they had committed "subversive acts."

The writ demands 10 million Hong Kong dollars (\$1.3 million) in compensation from Szeeto Wah, chairman of the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of the Patriotic Democratic Movement in China, and 3 million dollars each from the Democratic Party leader, Martin Lee, and from a party member, Cheung Man-kwong.

The case is still before court, but a finding in favor of the complainant, which many believe is possible, would radically change the confines of acceptable dissent here. At risk, for example, would be the thousands who take part in Hong Kong's annual demonstration to commemorate the Tiananmen Square massacre in Beijing.

Also up in the air is the extent to which Hong Kong's courts can overturn legislation on the grounds that it contravenes the Basic Law. In January, a judge ruled that the government's new immigration law was unconstitutional, opening the way for several hundred thousand people to immigrate from mainland China.

The government has said it would appeal, but if it loses, Hong Kong will be able to test which kinds of cases go to the territory's Court of Final Appeal, and which are decided by the mainland's more compliant courts. Hong Kong's courts have authority to deal with anything that is not an "Act of State," but that phrase is open to interpretation.



A Berlin bus driver, wearing a vest that reads, "Warning Strike Today," passing through an idle depot Tuesday. (Associated Press)

GERMANY: Municipal Workers' Strike Raises Stakes in Election

Continued from Page 1

"We know that things can't be like in the past, what with globalization and the pressure from Europe," Mr. Klumski said. "But we don't want things to go too far."

Sensing growing pressure on his union — which represents public service, transport and municipal transit workers — Mr. Klumski saw a broader point, too.

"Things that start in the United States get here 10 or 15 years later," he said. "And we saw what happened in Britain under Margaret Thatcher when the unions were smashed. Now they want to do that here."

Indeed, there is a broader point. Germany, Europe's ponderous economic powerhouse, is facing the rigors of glob-

al competition just as pressure is increasing to cut public spending in the name of the planned European single currency.

Employers and others maintain that unless the high cost of hiring people is cut, then Germany will not be flexible enough to meet those challenges and thereby reduce its record 4.8 million unemployed, representing 12 percent of the work force.

What that comes down to for people like Mr. Klumski is Deutsche marks and security.

In negotiations between his union and state employers, the government is pressing for a reduction in sick pay from 100 percent to an initial 80 percent of salary and for the phasing out of a program providing 3.2 million municipal workers like him with a

free, noncontributory state pension.

The union, by contrast, wants a package of modest pay increases and job security measures that would increase their wage package by 4.5 percent.

The union is also pressing for the 40-hour workweek of its members in Eastern Germany to be shortened to match the 35.5 hours of the West, reductions in working hours and overtime, and the introduction part-time work for retirees.

What is really at issue, though, is the costly sense of all-embracing social guarantees that postwar Germans have long taken for granted.

Take, for instance, a bus driver with 16 years' service. Mr. Klumski said: gross pay before stoppages, 4,067 DM (\$2,245) a month for 13 paychecks per year; six weeks paid vacation, plus 10 days paid public holidays.

The take-home pay is much less — ranging from \$1,000 per month for an unmarried, childless driver with little experience to about \$1,500 for a married driver with two children.

But the real value of the bus driver's job lies in withholdings that are matched 100 percent by the employer, making the cost of hiring much higher than the nominal gross salary. And that combined amount of withholdings from employer and employee finances the health care, schooling, social security, sick pay, old-age care and unemployment benefits at the core of what modern Germans call the "social market economy."

The sense that history's tide may be running against all that is what makes people like Mr. Klumski uneasy.

"They have been trying to cut our benefits for 20 years," he said. "It was easier in the past to hold on to them. Now the pressure is more difficult to resist."

Strike Over Taxes Begins in Zimbabwe

Reuters

HARARE, ZIMBABWE — The country's trade unions went ahead with a national anti-tax strike on Tuesday, defying President Robert Mugabe's government, which has declared it illegal and has denounced it as a campaign to unseat him.

Many businesses were closed across the country but there were no reports of violence by midday.

Zimbabwe has been rocked by a series of violent protests in recent months, including riots over food prices in January in which six people died and many shops were looted.

The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions called a two-day strike starting

Tuesday to press Mr. Mugabe to scrap a 2.5 percent-point increase in the sales tax and to review a 5 percent development levy, a 15 percent tax on pension profits and recent food-price increases.

They rejected appeals by the government to call it off, saying Mr. Mugabe was not offering anything other than threats.

Mr. Mugabe, 74, in power since the former British colony of Rhodesia gained independence in 1980, says the strike is a ploy sponsored by whites angry over his government's plans to grab mainly white-owned farms to resettle landless blacks. He says he still feels young, competent and in control.

The sense that history's tide may be running against all that is what makes people like Mr. Klumski uneasy.

"They have been trying to cut our benefits for 20 years," he said. "It was easier in the past to hold on to them. Now the pressure is more difficult to resist."

Mr. Klumski was born in Pittsburgh on Oct. 25, 1902, the son of James and Anna Elizabeth Commager. He was orphaned in childhood and raised by his maternal grandfather, who was of Danish origin and was a founder of American Lutheranism.

He grew up in Toledo, Ohio, and Chicago, where he graduated from high school and enrolled at the University of Chicago, working as a harvest hand in the summers and tending furnaces at night in winters.

He earned his bachelor's degree at Chicago in 1923, his master's the next year and his doctorate in history four years after that. He spent a year at the University of Copenhagen studying

against American involvement in Indochina, appealing to Congress on constitutional grounds to reassert its authority over the waging of war and appealing to the public on moral grounds.

By the time he was 28, Mr. Commager had been appointed to the NYU faculty and had completed two books, "The Reform Movement in Denmark," for which he received the American Historical Association's award for the best first book by an American historian, and "The Literature of the Pioneer West."

His reputation soared with the publication of "The Growth of the American Republic," which was written with Samuel Eliot Morison of Harvard. William Leuchtenburg joined the collaboration

OPINION/LETTERS

Please, Thank You and a Bronx Cheer

By Richard Cohen

NEW YORK

Beckler: "If it's a democracy, it's the most important new democratic expansion being funded by U.S. sellers, who see NATO expansion for their own benefit."

Student: "I just got the paper, it contains a letter from George H.W. Bush, the architect of America's containment of the Soviet Union, one of our nation's greatest and historic blunders. What does he say?"

Mr. Berger: "I have the respect for Mr. Keenan, but I'm a bon, who speaks Russiaphobia, books about Russia, and some best friends are Russians, he is possibly be anti-Russian, he is NATO expansion."

Student: "Excuse me, but I will write the first memo to Senator Warren Christopher to stop NATO expansion because — Bernard Shaw: 'Sorry to say, we've got to close.'"

The New York Times

NEW YORK — It is a fact that New York has more dogs per capita than any other city in the world. It is also a fact that I made that up. Still, New York has a lot of dogs, an estimated 500,000 of them, and yet on any given street you would be hard-pressed to know it. From the available evidence, the available evidence has been scooped up.

I start with what, to me, was this unlikely, totally unpredictable compliance with the 20-year-old "pooper-scooper" law my way of asserting that the mayor of this town, Rudolph Giuliani, is not totally nuts for asking New Yorkers to be nicer to one another — and, in what may be his boldest move to date, not excluding city workers from his edict. He even wants critics — for crying out loud — taught in the city's public schools.

Almost immediately, Mayor Nice's exceedingly modest proposal was met with Bronx cheers, derision and a kind of cynicism typical of this fair city. It was suggested by some that rudeness was central to the New York ethic, and that if people started saying "please" and "thank you," Times Square would go dark and the city would lose the vitality and manic energy

Crime is a third example. New York is the beneficiary will once again be able to vice their debts and banks will, once again, be lending the money in Asia.

In fact, it is the banks that have the most in Asia: \$275 billion, about one-third of that Thailand and Indonesia.

The crisis in Asia will be over until the crisis is over," writes Mr. Li, "not the United States or the credit rating agencies hold the key to Asia. It is Japan."

Yes, but the United States should not be a factor. Rather than sending its troops to the IMF, we need Japan hard to mend.

If we fail, we may second half of the year, typhoon, deflation, growth, higher energy, lower stock prices — perhaps we'll see some wandering around for their defeat at the hands of angry voters in November.

The writer is a former American Enterprise Institute fellow and a Washington Post reporter.

True, that's not what I said before, but you know how everything's been changed by El Niño.'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saving the Chinese

Regarding "A Problem for Beijing: Should It Stand Up for Overseas Chinese" (Opinion, Feb. 4) by Jonathan Mirsky.

Mr. Mirsky's underlying assumption that the Chinese in Indonesia would expect or desire assistance from Beijing is misconceived.

Despite the image perpetuated by military and political factions within Indonesia, the Chinese population there is not homogeneous.

There are indeed recent immigrants who might harbor loyalties to Beijing. But there are also ethnic Chinese who have lived in the country for generations and who consider themselves Indonesian first. Many, in fact, have no urge to this day to visit China.

ADRIENNE MONG, London.

Regarding "Indonesia's Neighbors Fear a Wave of Refugees" (Feb. 11):

This article notes that Beijing rescued endangered Chinese in Indonesia in the 1950s and 1960s, and quotes an economist as saying, "The possibility of China having to use naval forces to protect the overseas Chinese minority of Indonesia would represent a major threat to the political stability of East Asia."

But such a rescue now should not be seen as an act to destabilize the region. The move, if it were to happen, would be made purely because the international community has failed miserably to give this issue the attention it deserves.

Despite its huge contributions to the local economy, the Chinese minority in Indonesia has been living for years under the shadow of violence and discrimination.

The authorities have pressured Chinese to assimilate and give up their Chinese identity. Yet this has been ignored even by those countries that have been vehemently championing peace and anti-human rights.

Should China fail to act on any widespread attack on the Chinese in Indonesia, it would only weaken its po-

sition as one of the leaders of Third World countries. China would have a moral as well as a humanitarian reason to mount a rescue operation, and this should be understood by the West.

JOSHUA HONG, Wuppertal, Germany.

Clinton's Legal Woes

Regarding "New Legal Defense Fund Is Set Up for the Clintons" (Feb. 20):

Isn't it ironic that the most powerful couple in the United States, two highly qualified lawyers, might be "impoverished" as a result of having been forced to hire other lawyers to defend themselves against various accusations (true or false)?

And isn't it odd that America should be asked to contribute to the defense of the two people who have the power to enact change in the U.S. legal system?

One of the biggest problems of America is the cost of its legal system. It is unfortunate that we must rely on lawyers to change the system when it is they who are benefiting from it the most.

KIRK NEUREITER, Tokyo.

Even if Bill Clinton is guilty of nothing, there is something fitting about such a staunch opponent of tort reform finding out how it feels to be ensnared in endless lawsuits.

MICHAEL KALK, Sherman Oaks, California.

De Niro and France

Regarding "Angry With Court, De Niro Promises to Shun France" (Feb. 23):

Robert De Niro's reaction to his recent run-in with French justice, in which the actor was questioned in connection with a prostitution ring, is excessively hostile.

If Mr. De Niro refuses to set foot in a country because it has a less than perfect track record, can we assume he will now be avoiding the United States? Or is police harassment and corruption not a problem there?

DAVID BORDEAU, Paris.

The writer is a former member of the Indonesian National Committee on Human Rights.

PARIS — France, on the five-power Brussels Conference of the Inter-American Treaty, which to build a new European Alliance. What Britain and France have done is to approve the alliance.

The authorities have pressured Chinese to assimilate and give up their Chinese identity. Yet this has been ignored even by those countries that have been vehemently championing peace and anti-human rights.

Should China fail to act on any widespread attack on the Chinese in Indonesia, it would only weaken its po-

The Sad Tale of a Popular President

By Thomas Fleming

NEW YORK — Once there was a president named Warren Hard-

ing.

But in many respects, the rest of the country is becoming more and more like New York. The city's anonymity, both liberating and alienating, permeated reckless, rude behavior. But so now do vast stretches of America.

Warren had a wife named Florence. He was tired of her. She had pushed him to run for president. When she snapped "Warren!" you could almost hear his teeth chattering.

Warren and Florence encouraged

people to visit the White House. They called it "the people's White House."

Sometimes Florence came downstairs

and escorted tourists around.

The people loved that, too.

They did not have polls in those days, but everyone agreed that Warren and Florence were among the most popular presidential couples in history.

Warren had a mistress named Nan Britton, a blonde 20-something. He used to smuggle her into the White House when Florence was not looking. Secret Service agents were posted to

the malefactors committed suicide.

Warren embarked on a speaking tour to prove how much the people loved him. He traveled the country to great fanfare, talking about America and prosperity and normalcy.

Warren decided to visit Alaska, perhaps, because it was as far away as he could get from the stench that was rising in Washington. En route, he was stricken with a heart attack, and died.

The American people were grief-stricken. Mournful crowds jammed the railroad stations as Warren's body was returned to Washington. One newspaper called him "the greatest commoner since Lincoln." Another said Warren was "an ideal American."

Florence burned every scrap of official paper she could get her hands on while Warren was being mourned and buried. But it didn't do much good. Within a few months, members of Warren's administration were under indictment on corruption charges.

Most historians now rank Warren as among the worst presidents ever.

But there is always room at the bottom.

The writer, a historian, contributed this comment to *The New York Times*.

MEANWHILE

friends — and smuggling Nan into the White House.

But no one noticed, because the country was prosperous. And Warren had assembled a pretty good cabinet, which helped to deflect attention from his own nonperformance.

Warren once said he had no interest in that "Europe stuff." He was more interested in giving jobs to the cronies he brought with him from Ohio — notably a shyster named Harry Daugherty, whom he made attorney general.

Then Warren learned that Harry and his other poker-playing pals were siphoning tons of money from the government. He didn't know what to do. Two

They did not have polls in those days, but everyone agreed that Warren and Florence were among the most popular presidential couples in history.

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ISRAEL at 50

Y THE TIME people or nations reach the age of 50, there is usually a sense of certainty about them; they have an image of themselves as mature, established, maybe even comfortable. But Israel is very much still a work in progress; a country of extraordinary achievements and unresolved problems; a tiny country that has nevertheless held the world's center stage for all of its turbulent childhood, adolescence and now adulthood.

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Josef Joffe, the columnist and Editorial Page Editor of the *Suddeutsche Zeitung*, and John Goshko, the United Nations correspondent of The Washington Post, will take a look at two of Israel's closest and most interesting relationships; one with Germany and the other with America's Jewish community.

Joseph Fitchett, the IHT's political and security correspondent, will evaluate the regional balance of power in the Middle East and how that might shape Israel's future.

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China Softens Trade Stance

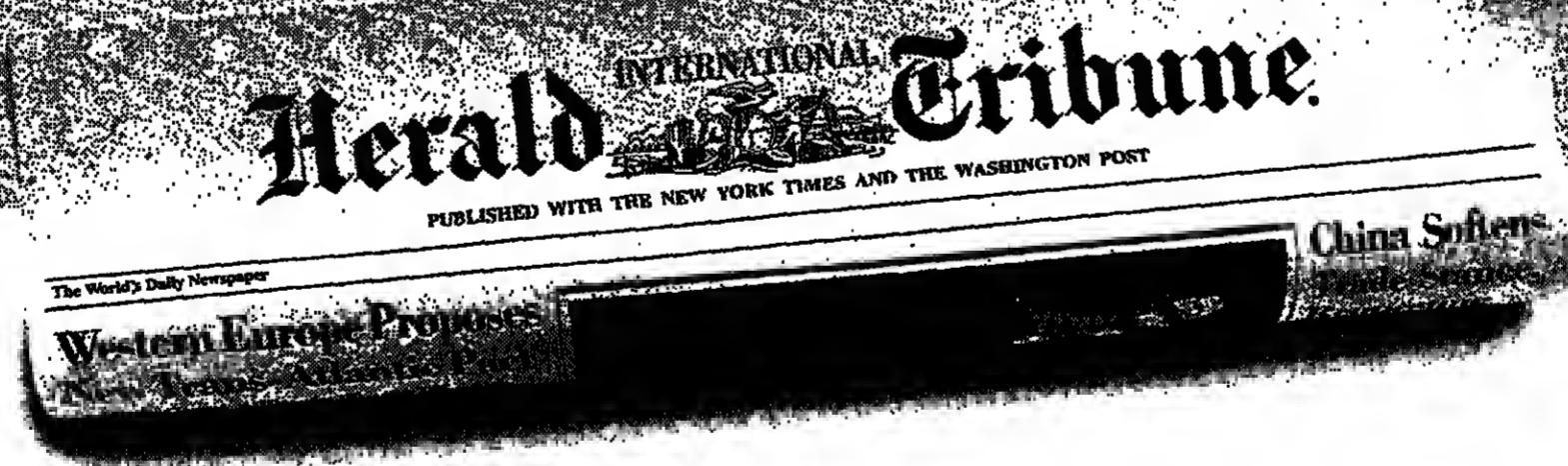
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INTERNATIONAL

CLINTON: Jordan Testifies

Continued from Page 1

Mr. McCurry, asked Tuesday whether Mr. Jordan's testimony would help Mr. Clinton, said, "Absolutely."

Because of allegations that Mr. Jordan might have played a role in a cover-up, either unwittingly or not, by helping Ms. Lewinsky find a lawyer and line up job interviews, his testimony could be critical to Mr. Starr's inquiry.

One administration official told The Associated Press that Mr. Jordan's testimony could "make or break" President Clinton.

"If anybody can hurt Clinton, it is Jordan," the official said.

Prosecutors, however, were certain to ask about the efforts made by Mr. Jordan, one of the most powerful men in Washington, on behalf of a former intern, and whether there was any connection to an alleged attempt to secure her silence.

Mr. Jordan, 62, has said that he helped Ms. Lewinsky obtain three job offers and found an attorney for her. He has denied, through lawyers close to him, having sought to influence her, possibly through the promise of employment, to deny having had a sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton in an affidavit for the Paula Jones sexual misconduct case against the president.

He has also said that both Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky had told him that they had not had a sexual relationship.

One explanation that Mr. Jordan might offer for helping Ms. Lewinsky, who left the White House in April 1996 to take a low-ranking job at the Pentagon, was that she was close to a prominent Democratic fund-raiser, Walter Kaye.

While some witnesses, notably Ms. Lewinsky's mother, Marvin Lewis, have emerged from the grand jury room looking shaky or distressed, Mr. Jordan was expected to make a formidable, jury-savvy witness.

As the former president of the National Urban League, a civil-rights group, and of the United Negro College Fund, he is one of the best-known and most widely respected black figures in the United States. He is also one of the most prominent attorneys and lobbyists in Washington, and sits on the boards of such major corporations as Dow Jones and Reuters.

Mr. Jordan, in his only public statement so far in the case, vowed Jan. 22 to say "directly, completely and truthfully" what he knew about the matter. Mr. Hundley said Tuesday that his client had no intention of invoking his constitutional

GATES: Defending Microsoft

Continued from Page 1

trated attack on the company. He did ask Mr. Gates if he thought Microsoft had a monopoly.

Mr. Gates replied that Windows faced competition from outside the personal-computer industry, citing the network-computer concept supported by Sun and Netscape.

They and several other companies back these so-called thin clients, which might use a Netscape browser reading documents created in Java that mostly reside on a large server computer. This model of computing reduces the importance of the operating system on the personal computer.

Mr. Gates said: "At least outside of this room, Mr. McNealy has a plan to replace PCs. He talks about how fat clients, nobody should buy fat clients, and thin clients will totally replace PCs."

"He's promoting a vision of computing that is a perfectly valid thing. This is a very competitive business, and I don't think it's fair to just come into this room and say, 'No, Mr. McNealy's Java OS has no chance of displacing Windows.'

Also appearing on the panel was Michael Dell, chairman of Dell Computer Corp. Staffers of Judiciary Committee members recently called the company and asked if they could buy computers with Netscape's Navigator loaded. They were uniformly told they could not because Dell Computers had to come with Explorer.

Mr. Dell said Netscape was available to large customers who requested it but because the program is available for free on the Internet, Dell did not bundle it with computers sold to individual consumers.

Mr. Hatch said Microsoft's "breathtaking growth" has "for many raised serious questions about the future of competition and innovation in the software industry."

Senator Herb Kohl, Democrat of Wisconsin, was more pointed.

"Mr. Gates, no one — no matter how powerful — is above the law," he said.

(Reuters, AP, AFP, AFX)

right to avoid self-incrimination by refusing to testify.

Meanwhile, another Clinton confidant, Bruce Lindsey, the deputy White House counsel, and the president's personal secretary, Betty Currie, were expected to be called back for new appearances before the grand jury as early as Thursday. It was Mrs. Currie who asked Mr. Jordan to help Ms. Lewinsky find a job.

Mr. Starr, seeking to build a mountain of evidence from the bottom up, began his inquiry by summoning low-ranking former interns and White House staff before calling, more recently, such top White House aides as Mr. Lindsey, John Podesta and Sidney Blumenthal.

Mr. Jordan could provide the testimony Mr. Starr needs to tie a case together. On the other hand, if Mr. Jordan denies any knowing attempt to influence Ms. Lewinsky's testimony, prosecutors would face a much more difficult task.

On Sunday, Ms. Lewinsky's attorney, William Ginsburg, made the plaintive statement to date that there had been no sexual relationship between his client and Mr. Clinton. He had said previously that she stood by the affidavit in which she denied such a relationship.

Mr. Ginsburg said Monday that his client had been alone with the president in the Oval Office a few times, but added, "Being alone doesn't mean they had a relationship."

White House records show Ms. Lewinsky visited the White House 37 times after leaving in April 1996. It is not clear whether she saw the president on each of those visits.

If Ms. Lewinsky, Mr. Clinton and Mr. Jordan all deny any wrongdoing, Mr. Starr's case would appear to rely on circumstantial testimony.

Mr. Jordan has long been one of Mr. Clinton's closest friends. The two have known each other since the 1970s.

Mr. McCurry, the White House spokesman, denied Monday that there had been any rupture of the relationship over the Lewinsky case. They "remain good friends," he said.

In all, Mr. Jordan met with Ms. Lewinsky four times and spoke to her seven times by phone, reports say.

On Dec. 19, she met with Mr. Jordan at his office and told him she had been subpoenaed to provide an affidavit in the Jones case. Lawyers close to the case told The New York Times that at that meeting was asked her whether she had had a sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton and that she denied it.



Mr. Jordan, center, making his way past reporters at the courthouse.

IRAQ: U.S. Says UN Gave It a Green Light to Attack

Continued from Page 1

of the accord," the ministry's spokesman said.

■ Invitation by Annan

Barbara Crockett of The New York Times reported:

Mr. Annan, opening a new channel of dialogue with Iraq on Tuesday, invited its foreign minister to New York to talk about problems the Iraqis have with the program that allows them to sell limited quantities of oil to buy food and medicines.

Discussions about the oil-for-food program have normally been conducted by lower-level officials and in Baghdad.

Foreign Minister Sahaf could arrive as early as next week, shortly before the United Nations sends a team of experts to Iraq to assess the country's ability to pump and export more oil.

The Security Council agreed last month to allow Iraq to sell \$5.2 billion worth of oil every six months, but Iraq says that it can produce only \$4 billion worth and wants money to repair equipment.

Iraq has also complained that the United Nations is meddling with Iraqi prerogatives in some of the plans it has drawn up for an enlarged oil-for-food plan.

All imports supervised by the

United Nations and improvements in the country are intended to relieve the suffering of Iraqis who have lived under sanctions for more than seven years. The economic sanctions were imposed in 1991 after the Gulf War.

Mr. Annan's willingness to hear out Iraq's many grievances about UN programs is a departure. Earlier, the Security Council, led by the United States, isolated Iraq as much as possible, demanding that Baghdad abide by the rules and not try to change them.

The secretary-general, taking a different line, has spoken of the need not to humiliate Iraq but to draw the country back into the community of nations.

His comments at the United Nations and in Baghdad about understanding and respecting the Iraqis are at considerable variance with the language often used in Washington.

Iraq must be certified free of all weapons of mass destruction before the sanctions can be lifted. Even then, Iraq will be subject to extensive monitoring. Over the last year, however, Iraq has experimented with a variety of tactics to evade the inspection system that is closing in on some of Mr. Hussein's most sensitive properties.

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'The Weir,' Ghostly Tales and Unspeakable Reality

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The Royal Court Theatre, though still several months away from returning to its Sloane Square home, has managed in exile around St. Martin's Lane to fill two and sometimes three small stages with some immensely impressive work, but nothing better than "The Weir," which comes to the Duke of Yorks after a brief outing last summer.

In the dramatist Conor McPherson, we have yet another of the young Irish brigade that has lately colonized the London stage, but what sets him apart is a unique gift for monologue. His "Se Nicholas" a few seasons ago at the Bush gave us a drunken drama critic (as if such characters exist) who falls in with a group of South London vampires. It was somewhere between a ghost story and a staggy dog story, but one of

remarkable poetry and potency. This time, in "The Weir," he gives us four regular hard drinkers, each with a ghostly tale to tell to the girl from Dublin who has just bought a house in the village until, inevitably, she tops them all with her own truly terrible personal story. So we have moved on a little, from monologue to dialogue.

McPherson's point here, it seems to me, is that the men can only overcome their sense of loss and failure by spinning these yarns, each of them just safely on the side of plausibility. What they are doing is essentially mythmaking, whereas what the girl finally offers is a slice of real, brutal if accidental life — the death of a beloved little daughter in a drowning accident.

Suddenly the men's tales are made to seem theatrical, if not downright phony. They are admirable barroom storytellers but the stories have been told for so long, from generation to generation, that they have lost all reality. Whereas the out-

sider, the one who has kept so demurely quiet as they told their oft-told tales, is the only one of them truly possessed by a ghost, and in that realization all the men seem almost to crumble as they go out to face the midnight air. What has held them together has been a fantasy, and now, suddenly, they have been faced with a reality, that the supernatural can and does still exist.

Ian Rickson's production is a master class in how to keep a fundamentally very static and talky play alive and moving, while the performances of Julia Ford and of Jim Norton and Des McAleer as two of the male regulars, resonate with suppressed passion and lost hopes.

Meanwhile at the Ambassadors, Nancy Meckler's Shared Experience company has come in with "I Am Yours," a play by the Canadian dramatist Judith Thompson which has

taken more than a decade to cross the Atlantic. And although I fervently believe that we are still not seeing nearly enough contemporary Canadian or Australian drama in this country, "I Am Yours" does not make my case any easier. This co-production with the Royal Court is a rambling, enigmatic family drama cut up into 36 scenes, across which we come to learn of a couple of dysfunctional sisters and the boyfriends they collect along the way. But this remains really a play about the past; a kind of familial guilt hangs listlessly over the sisters.

The admirably literary Meckler has directed as though this were some vast novel of a bygone era in which very little happens with immense elegance.

The trouble is that it's not; rather it is a contemporary piece about the horrors facing unloved one-parent mothers, and the general air of drift and despair that would seem to characterize suburban

Canadian life. There are many better plays than this hovering around the Toronto fringe, and it would be good to have a look at one that did not so determinedly resemble a daytime soap for the emotionally disenfranchised. In a cast of six, not one makes us really care what happens to them, and one ends up wishing they would cease dumping their long leftover teenage anxieties about sex and marriage on us.

Both these plays are well within the Royal Court's brief for discovering challenging new writing. But what makes "The Weir" so much better than "I Am Yours" is its urgent willingness to draw us into the charmed circle by the pub fireside, whereas the other play holds us at arm's length. There is a deliberate lack of involvement here, and it spreads like a forest fire. At the end of the evening, one is left idly wondering what would be the hourly rate for a family therapist who had to sort out this mess.



A scene from "I Am Yours."

TOMORROW
TECHNOLOGY
YOCERA PR
Trade
Jobs Over
Takeover
Sister Red

Trilok Gurtu: No Written Notes, Please Indian Percussionist Prefers Leaning on the Spirit of Music

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Coming from the Indian improvising tradition, percussionist Trilok Gurtu gets impatient with Western musicians referring to written music on stage when they do not really need it. It's an ego-trip, an advertisement of their own literacy perhaps, a crutch; it means they are likely to lean on intellect rather than the spirit. Whatever, he tells his musicians: "No paper, please."

On stage once, he looked over and every last one of them had stands with written music in front of them. And nobody, not one, was looking at it. So he surreptitiously turned the pages upside down and shuffled their order.

"And you know what?" he exclaims with his pixyish smile: "My God! Those guys didn't even notice, man."

This month, Gurtu is releasing "The Glimpse" (Escapade), a new album. He wants listeners at least to glimpse his new fusion between Indian tradition and cutting-edge pop music.

"People are asking me," he says, with his lilting southern Indian English. "Are you trying to be commercial?"

Gurtu is balancing on the balls of his feet and speaking urgently as though his life depended on it. Youngsters of Asian descent in London, who make techno or jungle music or bass and drums or however you call the latest club rage there, have recently begun to sample Gurtu's albums — in effect stealing passages — for records of their own. So Gurtu is suddenly in the front of a lot of contemporary mixes.

He's "so happy. They do not pay but I am proud. When I go there now, they know me in London. Of course it took 15 years, but never mind. They are my promoters. They go and talk about me in their magazines. It even gets back to India from London. They make my music more accessible. So finally I thought: 'Why don't I do this myself?'"

Actually, he had done it back in the 1970s with the late pocket trumpeter and "world griot" Don Cherry, ex-Ornette Coleman. Now is a particularly fortuitous time to take it a step further since "everybody is using '70s elements, like Fender Rhodes pianos. They are all going back there."

"Ganapati," the first track on "The Glimpse," is dedicated to Cherry, whose pop star daughter Neneh Cherry sings it. (The album is, he says, "vocally based." His mother Shobha Gurtu sings on it. She is an "Indian diva ... a superstar in my country.")

The big difference is that whereas Indian music has influenced the leading jazz musicians of our



Christian Rose

Percussionist Gurtu: "I have a voice, I have a sound, I am not imitating."

time like Cherry and John Coltrane, Gurtu is basically coming at it from the opposite direction, a less-traveled road — adding jazz grammar to Indian music. His use of unusual instruments like the sitar, ganawa, harmonium and kaval puts a fresh face on everything.

Fresh faces in pop music are rare. "Nothing is happening today," he says. "Everything is a hit stagnant." As he speaks, Gurtu begins to move his upper body like a prizefighter, like the agile percussionist he is. It's a conversational equivalent to his habitual dance around his wide-open intercultural instrumental spread that includes a conga drum, temple blocks, an Indian dhol drum, high-hat cymbals, a Buddy Rich crash cymbal, African cowbells, tuned pans and an Indian birdcall.

"Everybody," he continues, "is pop and jazz alike, is taking from here and from there. I am remaining what I am with this record. I have a voice. I have a sound. I am not imitating."

Gurtu lives in Hamburg and is increasingly busy concertizing between London, New York, Bombay and Buenos Aires. It was tough for him

God in India, was a drummer."

You might imagine that there are plenty of eager young students and musicologists who want to learn how to sift through Gurtu's rich experience. He has performed with Jack DeJohnette, who calls him "Pasha," as well as the world fusion group Oregon, John McLaughlin and Gil Evans. But Pasha appears to be quite happy to be able to say that "except for one, all my students argue a lot with me."

He thinks about that, and then continues: "Music is all one. It cannot be separated. Southern Indian music is funky and close to Cuban music. Jazz is close to both of them. Brazilian music is close to African music. The geography in each place may vary and the sun may shine more here than there. And everybody has different dances. But they all have a groove. Shiva, our supreme

God in India, was a drummer."

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They think they know it all. Michael Jackson sang this song from the Beatles. You know: "Come Together." The kids don't know that the Beatles wrote that. But I tell them: It was Lennon and McCartney. They do not want to hear about it; they think the Beatles are for old people. But you should know what the face of the original is before you make your own version of it. First of all you must clear the past. This is what I learned in India."

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Genesis, achieved limited success when it toured college campuses in the early 1970s.

For the last five years or so, the singer-Zuccheri, who is known as the Italian Joe Cocker, has performed frequently in America with little or no recognition. In 1991, when Ramazzotti first played at Radio City Music Hall, he was disappointed to find that his audience was mainly Italian-American.

"Some artists try hard to get out of the whole Italo-American thing," explained Ezio Guaitamacchi, editor of the monthly Italian music magazine Jam. "But it never really happens. You can be No. 1 in Italy, but in the States you're still a complete unknown outside the Italo-American community."

The only Italian pop singer who has made a dent in the American music scene is Andrea Bocelli. But Bocelli's background is classical music, and his best-selling album, "Romance," which has sold 620,000 copies in the United States, alternates between operatic arias and ballads of the most Mediterranean kind.

Bocelli and Ramazzotti may be at opposite ends of the music spectrum, but they join forces on "Musica E" ("Music Is"), a nine-minute ballad of "Eros" that gives full vent to Ramazzotti's lyricism.

He and his record company have reason to be optimistic about his chances in America. They point to the success of performers like Gloria Estefan, Ricky Martin, Enrique Iglesias, Luis Miguel and Selena, all of whom have had hits sing in Spanish, as an indication of the growing acceptance by Americans of performers singing in a foreign language.

The collaborations with Bocelli and Turner can also only help to raise Ramazzotti's profile in the United States among mainstream listeners. The song with Turner indicates how his music is being tailored for an American audience. Not only is it sung in English and Spanish, but the studio musicians who collaborated on it include the drummer Vinnie Colaiuta, a regular with Sting, the guitarist Mike Landau, who works with Pink Floyd, Quincy Jones and Celine Dion, and vocalists like Jim Gilstrap, Alex Brown and Phillip Ingram, who have backed up Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Michael Bolton, Elton John and Natalie Cole.

"The American sound suits my music well," he said. "The result is a more international record. We live in a world where fusion is important." The video was directed by Nigel Dick, who has worked with the Cult, Paul McCartney and Guns N' Roses.

Ramazzotti has been singing in both Italian and Spanish since 1988, and his label, BMG, hopes to capitalize on his bilingual ability to articulate the language of the heart.

"The Latino market is the fastest-growing market in the United States," said Heinz Henn, senior vice president for artists and repertoire and marketing for BMG International in New York. "Latino artists sell enormous numbers, and at the same time more and more are crossing over. We have high expectations from Eros and are promoting him heavily. A full attack on all fronts."

According to BMG, Ramazzotti's previous album — released in Italian as "Dov'è la Musica" ("Where There Is Music") and in Spanish as "Donde Hay Musica" — sold more than six million copies worldwide, 500,000 in the United States alone.

But Ramazzotti isn't the first Italian pop act to try to make it in America. One of Italy's first rock groups, PFM, a band inspired by

the guitar. (He now owns more than 70.)

Turned down at the Roman Music Conservatory because he lacked the necessary musical background, he worked at a series of jobs — bartender, house painter, bricklayer — until his father signed him up for a music competition. Success came in 1984 when he sang at the San Remo Festival of Italian Song, a pop-music competition that annually earns the highest ratings among Italian television viewers. Two years later, at 22, he won the festival and became an instant star. Since then, his popularity has become international.

BING darkly handsome won't hurt his chances with American audiences either, nor will his rags-to-riches life. Reared in the tough Roman neighborhood of Cinecitta, Ramazzotti was pushed into show business by his father, a house painter. At 7, Ramazzotti began to play the guitar. (He now owns more than 70.)

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Firms Trade Barbs Over Takeover

Computer Sciences Tries To Fight \$9.8 Billion Bid

By Mitchell Martin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Charles Wang, the chairman of Computer Associates International Inc., wonders why Computer Sciences Corp. will not ask its stockholders if they want to sell him their shares.

"Just put it to the shareholders and let them decide. If they don't want Computer Associates and myself, they'll say go away and they'll reject it," he said in an interview, referring to his company's \$9.8 billion takeover offer.

Computer Associates, which creates software for businesses, wants to expand into services by purchasing Computer Sciences, which helps companies integrate computers into their operations.

To get into the business, Computer Associates is offering a substantial premium to Computer Sciences shareholders. Computer Sciences shares were trading in the low \$30s when Computer Associates approached it in December, and they closed at \$38.25 on Feb. 9, the day before the \$108-per-share offer was made public. Computer Sciences shares closed Tuesday down 93.75 cents at \$107.

For Computer Sciences, the issue is not simply money on the table, said Bruce Plowman, a spokesman for the company, which is incorporated in Nevada. Mr. Plowman said the offer was not in the best interests of other interested parties, including employees, suppliers and creditors.

"Under Nevada law, the directors' decision involves consideration of the interest of the corporation's employees, suppliers, creditors and customers and the long-term as well as the short-term interests of the corporation and its stockholders, including the possibility that these interests may best be served by the continued independence of the corporation," Mr. Plowman said.

There is some support for his contention that a takeover by Computer Associates, known as an aggressive buyer and consolidator of other software companies would be bad for interested parties in Computer Sciences other than its shareholders.

Allie Young, an analyst at Dataquest Worldwide Services, said at the time of the bid that the offer did not make sense from the target's point of view, except for the premium paid to the shareholders. She said it that if the company were to be acquired, it would make more sense for another services company to buy it.

Mr. Plowman noted that its official rejection of the tender offer, filed Monday, held out the possibility that Computer Sciences would negotiate with another buyer. He also said that the company felt rushed by a "false sense of urgency" in the Computer Associates approach and that the board might later be willing to negotiate at a higher price.

Documents supporting a higher price are to be released Wednesday, he said.

Mr. Wang said Van Honeycutt, Computer Science's chief, originally had wanted more money than the \$100 per share that Mr. Wang and Sanjay Kumar,

See WANG, Page 19



SILVER STANDARD — Rolls-Royce's Silver Seraph making its debut Monday at the Geneva Car Show. The new model replaces the Silver Spirit, introduced in 1980. More news on the show, Page 17.

WALL STREET WATCH

Missteps Chip Away at Motorola Image

By Barnaby J. Feder
New York Times Service

As the U.S. wireless communications industry transforms itself from analog to digital technology, Motorola Inc., whose reputation for innovation, high-quality products and smart strategic thinking flourished in the early 1990s, has looked surprisingly clumsy at times.

The latest embarrassment stemmed from reports last week of a falling out with Primeco Personal Communications LP, which has a \$500 million contract with Motorola to help build a nationwide digital wireless phone system.

Motorola has apparently become so annoyed by disruptions in service that it is planning to cancel the contract and perhaps take the drastic step of ripping out equipment already purchased.

Analysts say the direct impact of ending the Primeco relationship would be minimal: Motorola had nearly \$30 billion in annual sales last year. But the news certainly does not help a corporate image tarnished by several missteps in new markets in recent years, missteps that make analysts worry that other customers may become more hesitant to sign new contracts with Motorola.

Making matters worse, Motorola is also confronted with some challenges beyond its control. The biggest is the economic crisis in Asia, where it got 26 percent of its revenue last year.

"The range of earnings projections for Motorola this year and next is wider than usual," said Charles Hill, director of research at First Call Corp., which monitors reports from 29 analysts at brokerage firms that follow the company.

Nine of those analysts have strong "buy" recommendations on the stock, but one has an outright "sell" recommendation — rare for Wall Street — and



12 others list Motorola as a "hold."

For many, the biggest uncertainty comes from the same questions hanging over much of American industry: How deep will Asia's financial woes get and how long will they persist?

Asia affects Motorola in two ways.

Demand for semiconductors and other key products has weakened during the months of financial turmoil in the East Asia. Telephone companies in struggling nations like Indonesia have put big-ticket contracts for new cellular telephone network equipment on hold.

And Asian manufacturers selling products like cellular phones are likely to be tougher competitors, if they are based in countries like South Korea where the local currency has plummeted in value, giving them a sizable cost advantage.

But Wall Street has been worried — and frustrated — by the ways Motorola has been hunting itself. As the Primeco episode highlights, the biggest such problems at the moment are in wireless communications products.

Much of the luster investors attached to the Motorola name — the stock is still

rivalled only by Intel Corp. as a favorite technology holding of investment clubs — was gained when demand for its pagers soared and its analog cellular technology dominated the market along with

that of LM Ericsson AB of Sweden.

But over the last three years, Motorola ranked 97th of the 100 largest publicly traded companies in the total return it offered its investors.

Industrywide downturns in the huge semiconductor business hurt. So did the failure of the Power PC microchip Motorola developed with IBM to grab significant market share in the personal computer business.

The last thing the company needed

was another blow to its image as a technology pioneer. But that came last week when Crain's Chicago Business reported that Primeco wanted to cancel its contract and remove Motorola equipment that was already installed.

Last Tuesday, after The Wall Street Journal published additional details, Motorola's shares fell nearly 5 percent to \$57.625.

The share closed Tuesday up 31.25 cents at \$56.25.

In July, the shares reached a 52-week high of \$89.9375.

Allegations on 'Mr. Yen' Knock Currency Down

By Sheryl WuDunn
New York Times Service

TOKYO — The yen slipped Tuesday as traders worried about the economic impact of corruption accusations leveled against the top Finance Ministry official in charge of international affairs.

The Finance Ministry immediately defended the official, Eisaku Sakakibara, but said it would investigate the allegations. Mr. Sakakibara, who is known as "Mr. Yen," because of the impact his comments often have on the foreign exchange markets, was traveling in Southeast Asia and could not immediately be reached for comment.

The allegations of wrongdoing were made initially in 1991. They resurfaced

Tuesday when Shozo Kusakawa, an opposition lawmaker who has raised cases of wrongdoing in the past, accused Mr. Sakakibara, the deputy minister for international affairs, of misbehavior in a series of instances dating back to 1987.

Mr. Kusakawa did not present any specific evidence for the charges.

"We will look into the allegations carefully," Finance Minister Hikaru Matsunaga told a budget committee meeting Tuesday in Parliament.

The Finance Ministry has been heavily criticized recently for economic mismanagement and a separate series of scandals in which two officials were arrested on charges of having been entertained by banks they supervised.

Mr. Sakakibara is the most senior official caught in the swirl of attacks against the ministry so far. An articulate spokesman for the ministry and a former teaching fellow at Harvard University, he forged a 1995 arrangement with U.S. Treasury officials to bolster the dollar.

His impact on the markets was felt

again Tuesday, as the dollar rose in Tokyo trading to 126.35 yen from 125.61 yen at the close Monday, after reports of the accusations. In late trading in New York, the dollar was at 126.340 yen, up from 125.53 yen on Monday.

Mr. Kusakawa accused Mr. Sakakibara of helping a company, which was not identified, win \$1.7 million from Daini Securities Co., one of the top Japanese brokerages, in compensation for investment losses. Mr. Kusakawa alleged that Mr. Sakakibara was an associate of the company's president and had been entertained by the company on 15 occasions from 1987 to

1990, and accepted taxi fares worth more than \$300 each time.

There is no evidence so far of any wrongdoing, and the Finance Ministry said Tuesday it was aware of the matter.

"The Securities Bureau and the secretaries looked into the matter" at that time, Toshiro Muto, director of the Finance Minister's secretariat and the ministry's second most influential bureaucrat, told Parliament. "Mr. Sakakibara, and the company president were already acquaintances, having met each other, once or twice a year. We know the facts, and think there were no problems."

Another senior Finance Ministry official said of the charges: "They have never been substantiated."

Mr. Sakakibara was criticized last month for saying that Mr. Matsunaga should be allowed time to attend international gatherings like the meeting in London last month of fellow finance ministers of the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations. Some critics took his comments as a slight that suggested that international meetings were more important than the parliamentary sessions in which the budget and other financial bills are being debated.

Mr. Sakakibara also was criticized for saying that the government has shifted from a tight fiscal policy as early as December, when it announced a 2 trillion yen tax cut and a 30 trillion yen bank bailout package. His comments came as Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and other senior government and Liberal Democratic Party officials were saying there would be no change in economic policy.

The Finance Ministry publicly apologized for Mr. Sakakibara's policy remarks, and Mr. Matsunaga issued a warning to the deputy minister that many construed as an official reprimand.

■ Japan Ready to Ensure Growth

Mr. Sakakibara said Tuesday that Tokyo was prepared to take fresh measures to ensure growth in the domestic economy and the region. Reporters reported from Kuala Lumpur.

"We have taken necessary measures and continue to address the problem, recognizing that Japan is an anchor economy in the region," he said, without providing details.

Mr. Sakakibara is on a three-nation tour of Southeast Asia to discuss how to resolve the regional economic crisis.

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Spin-Off Gives Ford Huge No-Tax Gain

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DEARBORN, Michigan — Ford Motor Co. said Tuesday it would record a \$1.65 billion gain from the spin-off of its consumer finance unit after learning that it would receive "tax-exempt" status for the deal.

Ford bought Associates First Capital Corp. in May 1989 for \$3.35 billion and sold 19.3 percent of it to the public in 1996. It is spinning off its remaining interest so it can concentrate on automaking, while giving Associates more flexibility to sell stock and acquire companies.

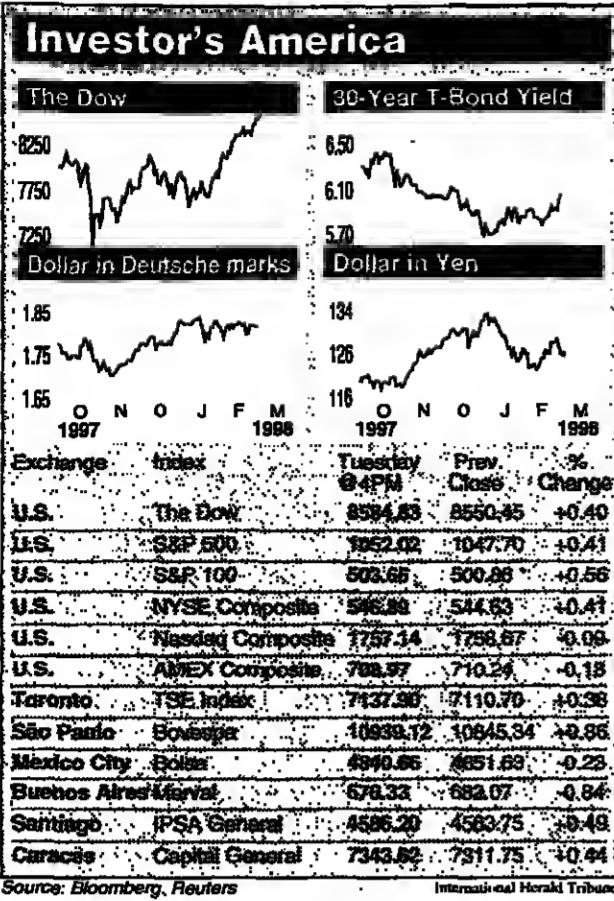
Ford valued its stake in the unit at \$22.7 billion — \$4.7 billion higher than when the spin-off was presented in October, reflecting the unit's appreciating stock price.

Associates, based in Dallas, closed at \$64 on Oct. 8, when Ford announced the spin-off. The stock rose 30 cents to

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

| Cross Rates | | March 3 | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ | Per \$ |
| Amsterdam | 1.202 | 1.202 | 1.174 | 1.045 | 1.037 | 1.078 | 1.078 | 1.078 | 1.078 | 1.078 | 1.078 |
| Paris | 2.28 | 2.48 | 2.42 | 2.115 | 2.082 | 2.124 | 2.124 | 2.124 | 2.124 | 2.124 | 2.124 |
| Frankfurt | 1.845 | 2.97 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 | 2.82 |
| London (Ex) | 1.457 | — | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 | 1.457 |
| Madrid | 15.078 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 | 21.514 |
| New York (Ex) | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 |
| Paris | 4.024 | 6.012 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 | 5.255 |
| Tokyo | 12.55 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 | 20.61 |
| Toronto | 1.243 | 2.347 | 2.347 | | | | | | | | |

THE AMERICAS



Dollar Gains Against Yen Amid Inquiry

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against the yen late Tuesday on news that an investigation had been opened into a top Japanese official, but the U.S. currency was mixed against European currencies.

In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar was at 126.34 yen, compared with 125.530 yen on Monday. It was at 1,814.30 Deutsche marks, down from 1,814.30 DM.

The dollar rose to 1.4687 Swiss francs from 1.4665 francs Monday, but fell to 6.700 French francs from 6.0837 francs. The pound climbed to 1.6515 from \$1.6463.

The dollar rose on news that an official investigation had begun into

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Eisuke Sakakibara, the deputy finance minister for international affairs, who has been dubbed "Mr. Yen" for his strong influence on foreign-exchange markets.

Mr. Sakakibara is being investigated for a 1991 incident — before he was named to his current post — in which he allegedly used his influence to force Daiwa Securities Co. to compensate friends for losses in their Daiwa stock account.

"Such a big name makes it a shock," said Marian Bell, an economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland. "But I don't think one man will make a difference to policy decisions."

Meanwhile, the mark continued to be supported by Gerhard Schroeder's re-election as prime minister of Lower Saxony. He was nominated Monday by the opposition Social Democratic Party to challenge Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is vying for an unprecedented fifth term as chancellor. Mr. Schroeder is leading opinion polls.

But some investors speculated that the SPD could lose the federal election in September, leaving in place a political deadlock that has held up tax and economic reforms, traders said.

"Markets were enthusiastic about Schroeder's nomination, but winning the federal election is a different story," said Roger Princke of BHF-Bank. "If you look at opinion polls, the figures released these days resemble those four years ago, and in the end the SPD still lost the election."

In 1994, the SPD candidate, Rudolf Sharping, led opinion polls in the spring but lost the elections in October. (AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- The Federal Trade Commission voted to challenge proposed acquisitions by Cardinal Health Inc. and McKesson Corp. in a bid to prevent the four largest U.S. drug wholesalers from combining. Cardinal plans to acquire Bergen Brunswig Corp. and McKesson plans to acquire AmeriSource Health Corp.
- Intel Corp. and NEC Corp. remained the world's No. 1 and No. 2 computer chipmakers in 1997 for the sixth straight year, according to the private research company Dataquest Corp.
- Synergies Energy Development Inc. will invest \$1.4 billion in a hydroelectric project in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.
- Federated Department Stores Inc.'s fourth-quarter earnings rose 11 percent to \$379.1 million on cost cuts amid moderate holiday sales.
- Dayton Hudson Stores Inc.'s fourth-quarter earnings rose 20 percent to \$356 million on a 9.6 percent increase in revenue, to \$8.95 billion.
- Cineplex Odeon Corp.'s fourth-quarter loss before a charge narrowed 85 percent, to \$1.5 million, on a 20 percent increase in revenue, to 146.1 million.
- Host Marriott Corp. posted \$7 million in net income for the fourth quarter, in contrast to a net loss of \$6 million a year earlier.

AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Ward Posts Loss of \$1.16 Billion

Bloomberg News

CHICAGO — Montgomery Ward & Co. said Tuesday its 1997 loss almost quintupled to \$1.16 billion from a loss of \$237 million as the retail-store chain sought to improve its performance after five months in bankruptcy reorganization.

Montgomery Ward Holding Corp., the chain's 125-year-old parent company, filed for Chapter 11 protection from creditors in July amid anemic earnings and dwindling sales.

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In 1994, the SPD candidate, Rudolf Sharping, led opinion polls in the spring but lost the elections in October. (AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

International Herald Tribune

Greenspan Says Global Reform Under Way

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration and the Federal Reserve chairman, Alan Greenspan, sought to reassure the U.S. Congress on Tuesday that serious efforts were under way to reform the global financial system.

The Asian economic crisis is not likely to have a large impact on the U.S. economy, although its effects could be amplified without congressional funding for the International Monetary Fund, Mr. Greenspan told the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Fed chairman said analysts "may well be correct" in their assessment that the effect of the Asian financial crisis on the United States will be small.

At the same time, however, he issued a warning. Mr. Greenspan said, "There is a small but not negligible probability that the upset in East Asia could have unexpectedly large negative effects on Japan, Latin America and East-

ern and Central Europe that in turn could have repercussions elsewhere, including the United States."

Both Mr. Greenspan and Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin appeared before the Senate panel to urge approval of \$18 billion as the

U.S. share in replenishing resources of the IMF, the agency that has taken the lead in dealing with the Asian financial crisis.

Mr. Rubin said in his testimony that the IMF needed additional funds to deal with a "truly major crisis," and be warned that a failure of Congress to approve the IMF funding request could "shake confidence in American leadership."

But Senator Mitch McConnell, Republican of Kentucky and chairman of the budget panel, disputed the need for quick approval of the full \$18 billion.

He said he would push for approval of \$3.5 billion now — the amount needed to create an emergency bailout fund at the IMF — but would delay approval of the remaining amount.

"In the interest of market stability, I think we all need to exercise restraint and avoid the urge to say the sky is falling," Mr. McConnell said.

Both Mr. Greenspan and Mr. Rubin, however, said that IMF support should not be delayed while reforms were being developed.

The IMF assembled more than \$100 billion in bailout funds to help Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea after those countries were hit by currency crises last year that have sent their economies into a tailspin.

Mr. Rubin said Tuesday that while South Korea and Thailand have made considerable progress

Fed chief urges U.S. Congress to approve funding for IMF

in IMF reforms, "Indonesia is a very troubling and complicated situation." He hinted that the Fund might not approve Indonesia's next installment in a \$40 billion international loan package due this month.

In a speech Moody to the Institute of International Bankers, Mr. Rubin stressed that U.S. officials, including the Federal Reserve, were working diligently with the IMF and other countries to come up with acceptable reforms.

On Tuesday, Mr. Greenspan singled out Japan, saying it bore a special responsibility for aiding Asia by stimulating its own economy.

The Fed chairman said that the "growth of Japan" was "a necessary condition for the stability of Asia."

He added that Japan must fix a financial system "bloated" with bad loans, while at the same time stimulating domestic growth.

(AP, Bloomberg)

Outlook for Consumer Spending Lifts Stocks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks rose Tuesday, led by retail stores, builders and entertainment companies on optimism that consumer spending will continue to lift corporate profits, but technology shares were off on pessimism about price competition in the industry.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at a record \$8,584.83, up 34.38 points, with advancing issues narrowly outnumbering declining ones on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index closed at 1,052.02, up 4.32 points. But the technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite Index fell 1.40 points to 1,737.14.

Homebuilder Kaufman & Broad Home Corp. rose after a U.S. government report that people bought more new homes in January than they had during the same month for the past four years. Low interest rates are helping people buy homes and refinance mortgages, and investors are buying consumer spending stocks on expectations that they will benefit from that cash.

"After a choppy March we'll still be in a bull market, as first-quarter earnings are likely to come in better than expected," said Stephen Dalton, who helps oversee about \$1 billion in stocks as a money manager at CoreStates Investment Advisors Inc. in Philadelphia.

The government report on January home sales helped push bond yields to 12-week highs on concern that consumer spending may be

U.S. STOCKS

growing quickly enough to accelerate inflation. That potentially could threaten stocks down the road, because higher interest rates can squeeze corporate profits by raising borrowing costs and rising yields can make bonds more attractive to investors than stocks.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond was down 26/32 at 100 24/32,

pushing the yield to 6.07 percent from 5.84 percent Monday.

Rising computer-related stocks have sent the Nasdaq up 13 percent for the year through Thursday, a pace investors say was unsustainable given the economic slowdown in Asia.

"There are things to worry about in tech land," said Bob Finch, a portfolio manager at Aetna's Investment Management, which oversees about \$40 billion.

"While the Asian markets have gotten better, the Asian economies still have a couple quarters to work through things," Mr. Finch said.

Merrill Lynch analyst Thomas Kurlik reiterated his pessimistic

GE Unit to Cut 1,200 Jobs in Restructuring

The Associated Press

SCHENECTADY, New York — General Electric Co. said Tuesday it would cut about 1,200 jobs in a restructuring of its GE Power Systems subsidiary, which makes turbines and other power-plant equipment.

The cuts, which amount to 5 percent of the unit's work force, are expected to take place early next year. GE plans to outsource the

parts from its Schenectady plant, which will result in the elimination of about 475 jobs, said Jeff Iglesias, a company spokesman.

In addition, GE will move its sales and services operations to Atlanta. About 300 to 350 of the employees in those departments will be transferred, and 100 to 150 could be laid off.

GE will also close a factory in Massachusetts, which will result in the elimination of up to 600 jobs.

(Bloomberg, NYT)

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day, nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

ing to Unveil P Telephone Rego

That Firm Adventure

Computer Associates

Wang made a heavy
He, Mr. Kumar and
other vice President.
than \$1 billion of stock
Associates share price
\$3 for \$1.50 a day

Continued on Page 21

ASIA/PACIFIC

For China's Middle Class, Home Is Where the Subsidy Is

Bloomberg News

SHANGHAI — Li Li, a 35-year-old cellist, and her businessman husband live in one room of a three-bedroom apartment they share with two other families.

While the three families share two bathrooms and a kitchen, Mrs. Li has no interest in moving out or trading up — even as the government pushes China's emerging middle class to buy into the dream of home ownership.

The reason: Her government-subsidized rent is less than \$10 a month.

"I don't want to buy an apartment, nor can I afford one," she said.

That is a big problem for government officials, who are bank-rolling the construction of about \$350 billion of new apartments in the next three years — 12 million apartments — to shore up economic growth.

The building program is the centerpiece of a government push to keep the economy on track and create new jobs for the millions who will be thrown out of work by the

closure of hundreds of money-losing state companies.

It is a pet initiative of Deputy Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, an economic policymaker that the National People's Congress is likely to name as prime minister at its annual meeting this week.

Housing "is a giganuan and limitless market, which will lead to the development of dozens of other sectors" — such as home appliances and consumer electronics — according to a recent commentary by the official Xinhua news agency.

The collapse of Asian currencies promises to throttle China's exports — its main engine of economic growth — and put Beijing in the same bind that confounded governments throughout Asia the past year: Maintain the currency's value or weaken it to shore up exports and risk setting off a free-fall that could rock banks and ignite inflation.

Even among China's best paid, many workers cannot afford private rent, and ownership is out of reach.

Cash-strapped Asian businesses — which last year accounted for about three-quarters of China's \$43 billion foreign investment — will also curtail new investments.

That has left policymakers groping for alternatives that promote growth, while safeguarding the currency — hence the housing policy.

The problem is that it may not work as intended.

"I expect some minimal effect on the economy, beginning in

1999," said Gilbert Choi, director of China Research with Kleinwort Benson Securities.

"If I tell you your rent is raised, and down the road you will have to buy your place, your immediate reaction is you save," Mr. Choi said.

Construction firms say they are not eager to build apartments.

They are not as profitable as office buildings, said Xing Chunhua, director of Beijing Agricultural Industrial

Commercial Corp.

That says a lot, given that Beijing's office rents have dropped by 40 percent over the past year, with a forest of cranes still throwing up new towers all over town.

Banks, already burdened by bad loans that account for 20 percent of their total, are reluctant to add new bad debt by lending to individuals who could soon be jobless.

But weaning China's urban workers off welfare housing will not be

easy. To push people to buy their own apartments, local governments are cutting rent subsidies and state-owned companies such as Guangdong Kelon Co. are making down payments for their employees.

That is small comfort to workers worried about their own jobs and trying to scrape together enough to buy a place to call their own.

Even among China's best paid, many Shanghai workers cannot afford private rent, and ownership is out of reach. A low-cost apartment sells for 120,000 yuan (\$14,941), or about 11 years of the average salary last year of 10,663 yuan.

"Buying an apartment is my dream," said Chen Bin, a 22-year-old computer engineer whose marriage plans are on hold until he can secure an apartment.

At current interest rates, Mr. Chen said a mortgage would cost him 2,000 yuan a month, a third more than his total salary.

"I can't afford the monthly mortgage with my wages."

Investor's Asia

| Hong Kong | | Singapore | Tokyo |
|-----------|------|---------------|------------|
| Hang Seng | | Straits Times | Nikkei 225 |
| 1997 | 1998 | 1997 | 1998 |
| 15530 | 2065 | 19030 | 19030 |
| 14000 | 1522 | 15000 | 17000 |
| 12500 | 1623 | 16000 | 16000 |
| 11000 | 1402 | 15000 | 15000 |
| 9500 | 1202 | 15200 | 15200 |
| 9000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 8500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 8000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 7500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 7000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 6500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 6000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 5500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 5000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 4500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 4000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 3500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 3000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 2500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 2000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 1500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 1000 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 500 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |
| 0 | 1303 | 14000 | 14000 |

Source: Telekurs

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• Prince Waleed ibn Talal, the Saudi Arabian billionaire, intends to seal deals worth \$250 million with South Korean companies during a visit to the country next week, the London-based Asharq al Awsat newspaper reported him as saying. The newspaper also said Prince Waleed planned to invest in a Four Seasons hotel in Seoul.

• Japanese companies are expected to suffer an average 0.4 percent drop in current profit in the year ending this month, the first decline in four years, the Daiwa Institute of Research said.

• Plutonic Resources Ltd., a gold producer that plans to merge with Homestake Mining Co., posted a loss of \$62.5 million Australian dollars (\$42.3 million) for 1997 due to asset write-downs because of lower gold prices. In 1996, the company posted a net profit of 30.6 million dollars.

• Standard & Poor's Corp. raised the long-term ratings of Honda Motor Co. and American Honda Finance Corp. to A from A-minus.

• Choi Communications Inc.'s shares rose to 22,400 won (\$14.46) from their subscription price of 12,000 won on their first day of trading on the Seoul stock exchange.

• Cheung Kong Holdings Ltd. and Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., the two flagships of Li Ka-shing, plan to spend \$600 million on a joint venture to expand their hotel businesses.

• Hong Kong's chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, said the recent steep falls in Hong Kong's stock and property markets were "a good thing" and long overdue. He added that China's strong fundamentals meant there was no reason to devalue the yuan.

Reuters, Bloomberg

Beijing to Unveil Reform Of Telephone Regulation

Reuters

SHANGHAI — China is on the verge of a major shake-up of its telecommunications sector aimed at accelerating access to the so-called information superhighway and wresting regulatory control from network operators, industry executives said Tuesday.

The plan calls for the merger of three key bodies in the telecommunications sector — the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the Ministry of Radio, Film and Television and the Ministry of Electronics Industry.

Part of an ambitious overhaul of China's government, the move would create a new body, similar to the Federal Communications Commission of the United States, that would have broader regulatory powers. The new group would be called the Information Industry Committee, executives said. The shake-up would separate the tasks of equipment manufacturing, network

operation and network regulation.

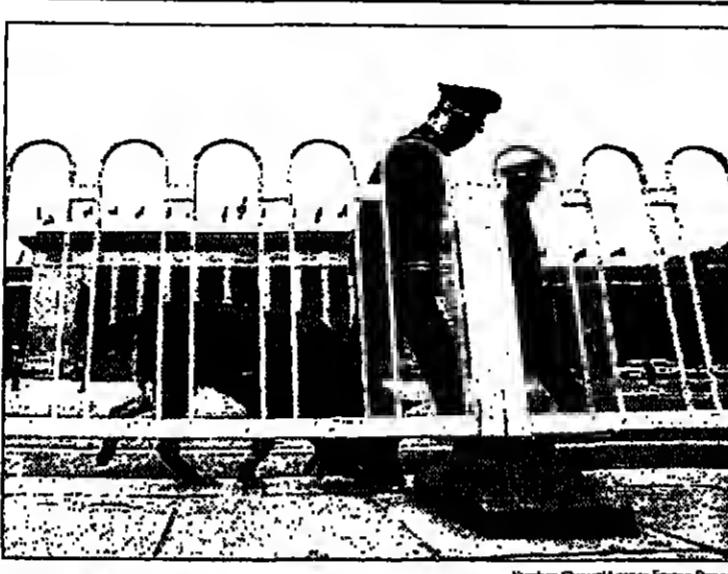
"The rapid development of technology in different fields requires a different type of regulatory format," said a senior official in the telecommunications sector.

The reorganization would be part of the broad government streamlining spurred by Deputy Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, who is widely expected to take over as prime minister at the next session of Parliament.

The changes also aim to reduce wasteful spending as ministries scramble to gain a share of the market and build their own networks.

"Greater coordination will probably mean a loss of some demand for our products," said an executive at a fiber-optic cable company. "But the market is still growing rapidly."

No change is expected in the restrictions on foreign companies, which are not allowed to operate telecommunications networks in China. But the fledgling domestic telephone company, China United



Police officers patrolling in Beijing on Tuesday before the opening session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Telecommunications Corp., or China Unicom, could be one of the main beneficiaries of the realignment.

China Unicom, set up in 1994 to challenge what was then the Ministry of Posts' telephone monopoly, has found it difficult to compete

with its powerful rival.

"This should give Unicom a much fairer shake," said a foreign consultant who follows the telecommunications sector.

"It could mean Unicom no longer

has to compete with the regulator."

GE and Thai Firm Form Credit Venture

Reuters

BANGKOK — GE Capital (Thailand) Ltd. and the Central Group of Companies have begun a joint venture to provide consumer finance and store credit cards in Thailand, GE Capital said Tuesday.

Under the agreement, GE Capital, a subsidiary of General Electric Co. of the United States, will acquire a majority stake in Central Card Co., which issues and operates the Central charge card, GE Capital said.

The joint venture will operate and manage private-label credit cards — cards issued for individual retailers — as well as lease-purchase finance and proprietary credit services.

All Nippon said the carrier is also considering relocating its headquarters from Tokyo to Haneda Airport, south of the city, to cut costs.

In October, All Nippon said it was suffering in a price war on domestic routes and forecast that parent pretax profit for the year to March would be 15 billion yen, down from 17.3 billion yen the previous year.

Net profit was forecast at 2.3 billion yen, compared with 3.9 billion yen. Revenue was projected to total 929.9 billion yen.

All Nippon has been building its international service since 1986. The code-sharing deal eliminates the need for transiting passengers to check in again at the airport when transferring to the flight of the other airline.

Last week, Japan Air Lines Co. announced it would share codes with

American Airlines Inc. in October, in the first such tie-up between a Japanese and American carrier.

JAL Said to Cut Jobs in U.S.

Japan Air Lines was reported to have dismissed 200 full-time employees in the United States, or about a quarter of its American work force, as part of its goal to cut costs by about 2.5 billion yen over six years. Bloomberg News reported, citing unidentified sources from the company quoted by Nikkei English News.

The airline plans to subcontract operations at three New York locations, in June, and in Honolulu, possibly this year. Japan Air Lines will create a new subsidiary for its Los Angeles passenger and cargo division, Nikkei English News said.

Starting in April, the company will cut the salaries of 3,000 employees with a view to saving 700 million yen (\$5.6 million) within a year.

"We are going to implement the pay cut in order to strengthen our competitiveness," a spokesman for

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Tuesday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press

The Associated Press

999 Other Funds

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

(Continued)

NASDAQ

Herald Tribune SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1998

PAGE 22

WORLD ROUNDUP

Doby Joins the Hall

BASEBALL Larry Doby, the first black player in the American League, was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame on Tuesday by the Veterans Committee.

The committee also chose Lee MacPhail, the former American League president; "Bullet" Joe Rogan, a Negro League pitcher; and "Gorgeous" George Davis, a shortstop from early this century.

MacPhail joins his father, Larry, as the only father-and-son combination in the Hall.

Doby became the second black major leaguer and the first in the AL when he pinch-hit for the Cleveland Indians on July 5, 1947, against Chicago at Comiskey Park. He made seven All-Star teams and helped the Indians to a World Series championship in 1948. (AP)

Dolphins Sign 4 Players

FOOTBALL Brock Marlow, a free-agent safety, left the Dallas Cowboys to sign a three-year contract Tuesday with the Miami Dolphins, rejoining coach Jimmy Johnson.

The Dolphins also re-signed James Brown, a tackle, to a five-year deal Tuesday. On Monday, the Dolphins had re-signed Bernie Parmalee, a running back, to a two-year contract and agreed to a two-year deal with Kevin Alexander, a free-agent wide receiver.

• Ted Washington, a nose tackle, became the highest-paid player in Buffalo Bills' history, signing a five-year, \$27.3 million contract. (AP)

Sprewell in Accident

Latrell Sprewell, a guard who is suspended by the National Basketball Association, lost control of his car while changing lanes on a northern California freeway, causing another vehicle to flip over, authorities said Monday. Witnesses said Sprewell was speeding while cutting through traffic. No one was seriously injured.

• Mo Vaughn, the Boston Red Sox slugger, had been drinking at a strip club before he crashed into a car parked beside the highway and flipped his pickup, according to testimony in his trial on drunken driving charges in Dedham, Massachusetts. Immediately after the accident, on Jan. 9, Vaughn failed eight sobriety tests, the police said.

• Two Olympic snowboarders are due in court in Nevada on Wednesday on marijuana-related charges. Michael Kildevaeld, a member of the Danish team, and Brett Tippie, a Canadian, were arrested Saturday after a deputy stopped their car for speeding. They were returning from a competition. Deputies said they found about two grams of what was believed to be marijuana and a pipe in the car. (AP)

Rolen Accepts \$10 Million

BASEBALL Scott Rolen, the National League rookie of the year last year, agreed to a new contract with the Philadelphia Phillies, accepting \$10 million over four years.

Rolen will get \$750,000 this year, \$1 million next year, \$2.5 million in 2000 and \$5.5 million in 2001. Rolen, who turns 23 on April 4, made \$175,000 last year. (AP)

Treated Like Meat

SOCCER A Romanian soccer player has been sold by his club for 500 kilograms of pork, worth about \$2,500.

Jui Petrosani, a second division team, received the meat from Valcea of the third division for Ion Radu, a midfielder. The club plans to sell the pork to play player wages.

Petrosani also sold a defender, Liviu Baica, to Valcea for 10 soccer balls. (AFP)



DANGEROUS GAMES — Rivaldo, right, the Barcelona striker, swerving to avoid the raised boot of Arpon of Racing Santander. Luis Figo, center, looked on. Barcelona won, 4-2, in Santander on Monday to regain first place in the Spanish league. Rivaldo scored in the 69th and 71st minutes to give his team a 2-1 lead. Santander leveled in the 80th minute, but Barcelona's other Brazilian striker, Sonny Anderson, scored twice to secure victory.

New Life for Disabled Czech Athletes

Downhill Skier and 6 Teammates Compete in Winter Paralympics

By Peter S. Green
International Herald Tribune

went back to school and took a course in training handicapped skiers.

"The regime didn't want us to play sports; they didn't want us to be seen," said Dostal, who is training for a degree in coaching disabled athletes. "They wanted to show how 'clean' the country was, and that there weren't many handicapped athletes."

Jan Pauer, one of the founders of the Czech disabled sports movement, said: "Sport was the shop window of the regime. The regime wanted to show how great they were through sport, and handicapped sports weren't attractive for them. It was soccer, bockey, track and field that got the attention and the money."

Pauer lost his left leg when he fell under a Prague tram in 1958, just before his 19th birthday. He founded the first disabled sports club in Prague in 1964.

While the top able-bodied athletes were often given jobs in state companies — with no work required — and free training, disabled athletes had to battle for funds, equipment and even time off for the ice with a pair of short hockey sticks.

The Czechs are sending seven athletes to Nagano, four physically disabled male skiers and three blind or partly sighted female skiers.

Dostal uses a single ski and loog crutch-like poles with short ski tips attached to the ends, called outriggers.

Dostal has found hope in the healing power of sport. But it has been a struggle.

In Communist Eastern Europe, handicapped children were often kept locked away in institutions and sent to schools for the learning disabled.

Dostal says it was only with the support and perseverance of his family that he was able to overcome quickly what could easily have been a life-breaking handicap.

Encouraged by his grandfather, Emil Dostal, a well-known athlete, coach and his father, Jiri, an enthusiastic amateur athlete, young Jan took up every sport he could: volleyball, basketball, swimming and even the high jump.

Slowly, through trips abroad to sports meets for disabled athletes, the Czechs saw new training techniques and equipment.

ment. But money was hard to come by, and even by 1980, with 2,000 athletes registered in disabled sports clubs, the Communist authorities were reluctant to let more than one athlete with a physician and a coach travel to a meet.

When they finally sent a team to the 1988 Paralympics in Seoul, the athletes had to promise that if they won a medal they would not ask the government for the honorarium customarily awarded medal winners by the government.

He also won a three-year sponsorship from the local distributor of Dynastar skis.

But funds are still tight. A pre-season trip to Kaprun Glacier in Austria exhausted the ski team's budget, leaving them with little opportunity to practice when this year's warm winter kept the Czech slopes bare of snow. It also left Dostal and others wondering where the pledges of the Paralympics sponsors have gone.

A mere 40 days of practice this season means it is unlikely that even the top Czech skiers will bring home medals. Dostal says he is hoping to place in the top 12 in the slalom.

While the Czech hockey team was celebrated as national heroes after defeating Russia for the gold at Nagano in the nation's favorite sport, the Czechs will not even be fielding a disabled sledge hockey team at Nagano.

A lot of young handicapped people don't have any access to sports," Dostal said. "They don't even know this exists."

Time for Derring-Do In the Champions Cup

Stars Need to Show Some Genius (And Quit Thinking About Money)

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The pulse quickens. The accountants perk up. The players of the last eight teams in the UEFA Champions League are primed for the resumption Wednesday of soccer's most precious club tournament.

Real Madrid, Manchester United, Bayern Munich and Juventus are great names in a competition that has often

EUROPEAN SOCCER

provided a seasonal lift. But are these clubs now principally finance houses? Are the teams now entirely focused on chasing profits for their clubs, or is there some small place in a player's makeup that will make him abandon conformity?

It might only take a moment of Roberto Carlos's time. Or a flicker of genius from Elber or David Beckham or Zinedine Zidane. Just let go, guys, take the risk. Make it happen.

Soccer is big business, but so is music. Andre Previn, the conductor, made a remark this week that applied to great soccer as much as to great music. He said he enjoyed conducting the London Symphony Orchestra because its musicians would take a chance; they played to order, but every now and then they would reach for something extraordinary.

In concert we expect perfect pitch; on a soccer pitch we hope to applaud perfection. We hope for a movement that transcends modern organized frustration. Among the quarterfinalists in the Champions League, the professionals of Real Madrid are under the most pressure but also the most artistic.

The club is living with two shortfalls — its 10 billion peseta (\$65 million) debt to creditors, and the 32 years since it was last the champion of Europe.

Yet early this season, in the Champions League, I saw Real play with joy. Roberto Carlos, Clarence Seedorf, Fernando Hierro, Raul Gonzalez, Pedrag Mijatovic seemed like liberated children. The strict team builder, Fabio Capello, had departed to Italy. Jupp Heynckes, the German now in charge, had not then imposed his demands.

Heynckes has since persuaded the board to go deeper and deeper into debt, gambling on the European crown lifting Real Madrid's valuation. Heynckes has rebalanced midfield with Christian Karembeu, the dogged French warrior on the right and Savio Bortolini, the elusive goal-scoring Brazilian on the left.

Lorenzo Sanz, the club president, is impatient for returns. Heynckes and Sanz are squeezed by debt and expectation. There is mistrust and fear of failure, and it will be tested to extremes Wednesday, when Real Madrid plays at Bayer Leverkusen, followed by Saturday, when plays in an even fiercer cauldron, the Spanish season's possibly decisive contest in Barcelona.

These could be a make or break four days in Real Madrid's year. Will Real to entertain, to show us the soul of soccer?

Leverkusen has a Brazilian craftsman, Emerson, and Ulf Kirsten, the leading Bundesliga scorer for two seasons, to probe Real's weakness at the heart of defense. Yet Leverkusen is no champion; it finished runner-up in Germany last year and was admitted to the tournament through the distortion of a so-called Champions League that allows powerful nations but two entries.

Indeed, Germany has three teams in the final eight. Bayern Munich, the national champion, meets Borussia Dortmund, the Champions Cup holder, on Wednesday. That is good for the Germans, exploiting the opportunities, but it hardly adds excitement to the competition.

The Bundesliga heavyweights know another too well. The Bayern president, Franz Beckenbauer, apologizes in advance should the encounter offer

more unyielding German league fare. Moreover, Bayern has recently lost to Cologne and Hertha Berlin. Dortmund is having an indifferent domestic season. So both teams will go warily to the Olympic Stadium.

Real should play less of a role in Monte Carlo where Stadio Louis II will once be a full to its 18,000 capacity for the visit of Manchester United. United is out to recapture a trophy it won 30 years ago, before all except goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel and forward Teddy Sheringham were born.

Yours and the work ethic make Manchester United effervescent. With over two months to go, United has just about wrapped up another English championship, and last Saturday, after it engaged only second gear to win at Chelsea, Luca Vialli, the new Chelsea player-coach, pronounced United ready to conquer Europe. It has, said Vialli, the mental strength to do what he did with Juventus and win the Champions Cup.

Not a bad recommendation. But United is without Ryan Giggs, who has a hamstring injury. Monaco may be without its young striker, David Trezeguet, but its pace and skill will test United's European pedigree.

In Turin, Italian experience meets Ukrainian aspiration. Juventus has appeared in three successive European Champions League finals and tops Serie A. Edgar Davids injects hard running, Zinedine Zidane has skill to spare, and Alessandro Del Piero is among Europe's most consistent big-night strikers.

Yet Dynamo Kiev has resisted the temptation to sell its young stars. It still has Sergei Rebrov and Andrei Shevchenko, goal scorers money has not been able to buy, and Valeri Lobanovskiy, a wily coach.

"Big name players get so far and become complacent," Lobanovskiy said. "Look at Ronaldo. He's still improving, as he should at his age. But he stands around when he isn't scoring. I would swap him for Shevchenko, who puts in valuable team work."

Lobanovskiy admires Juventus, but not too much.

"We all know who Juventus are," he said, "but I'm not sure the Italians know who we are. Let them think we are nobody from nowhere. Let them think we will do us easily in both legs. Let them think Ukrainians hibernate for the whole winter. Their ignorance is our 12th player."

It might be, comrade, if Marcello Lippi, the Juventus coach was an ignorant man. He is anything but. Lippi's thoroughness, his industry and his team's effectiveness, so industrious in fact that there is rarely a pause for creation: a little time for fun.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of *The Times of London*.

Kidnapping Ends in Russia

Kidnappers in southern Russia have released the 11-year-old daughter of the president of the Russian Premier Division soccer club Vladikavkaz Alania. Reuters reported Tuesday from Moscow.

A police spokesman in the volatile region of North Ossetia said Zalina Bitarova was at home with her parents after being held for ransom for 66 days by unidentified kidnappers.

"She had been held on the outskirts of Vladikavkaz in the basement of a house," the spokesman said by telephone.

The girl was seized from outside her school in December. The Interfax press agency said kidnappers had demanded \$3 million for her release but later scaled down their demands.

The police declined to say whether any ransom money was paid. None of her captors has been arrested.

Baraz Bitarov is president of Alania Vladikavkaz, based in the region's main city. The club won the Russian Premier League championship in 1995.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

DETROIT & TEXAS

NEW YORK YANKEES 12, KANSAS CITY 8

PHILADELPHIA & TORONTO 4

BOSTON 12, PHILADELPHIA 8

BUFFALO 11, MONTREAL 9

CINCINNATI 7, TORONTO 6

HOUSTON 7, ALBUQUERQUE 6

FLORIDA 5, NEW YORK 4

DETROIT 7, LOS ANGELES 5

DETROIT 7, SAN FRANCISCO 10

CHICAGO WHITE SOX 8, CHICAGO CUBS 3

ATLANTA 7, MILWAUKEE 4

DETROIT 7, SAN FRANCISCO 4

DETROIT 7, COLORADO 4

DETROIT 7, CHICAGO 4

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Derring-Do Champions Show Some Genius Thinking About Money

New York Times Service
OST somehow, so quickly, amid the spur and whip of the tumultuous NBA season, was the paltry punishment laid out by the league on Keith Askins, the Miami Heat forward, who, as some courtside reporters said "nearly took the head off" Keith Van Horn.

Askins crashed like a bull into Van Horn as the New Jersey Nets' forward sailed unprotected through the air on a drive to the basket Saturday.

Askins was obviously "sending a message" to Van Horn and the Nets.

On Sunday, the National Basketball Association suspended Askins for two games and fined him \$10,000. That "message" causes a minor inconvenience for the Heat. For Askins, a typically well-heeled NBA player, it was an almost imperceptible thinning of his wallet.

Even the National Hockey League, that avatar of mayhem, imposed a four-game suspension without pay on Gary Suter for viciously cross-checking Paul Kariya, causing a concussion and relegating Kariya to the sidelines for what doctors believe may be the rest of the season, if not longer.

The NBA has a wonderful forum for

entertainment. It is a tough sport and, when played at its best, often performed with judicious muscle. But goonsmanship not only diminishes the sport, but also risks serious and perhaps career-ending injury.

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by rebounding from Askins's assault with 22 points, the high for his team. Riley excused the Askins play by saying it was "a hard foul."

There are indeed hard fouls, and bas-

kets should not go uncontested.

But a player's well-being should not be imperiled. Nor should this be a case of artistic judgments. The league, to its credit, disagreed with Riley and leveled its top-level flagrant foul — of two levels. Flagrant foul two is "unnecessary and excessive."

It seems there should be a third level, since level two doesn't quite cut it. If there were a flagrant foul three, it would be meted out when, as in Askins's foul, serious injury could have been inflicted.

"The league has done a good job in stopping the fighting," said Willis Reed, an executive with the Nets. "I'm sure it could do the same with fouls of that nature." He is correct.

It should have sent Askins and others — players and coaches who itch to do the same — a stiffer message. Five games at home without pay for the perpetrator sounds about right.

NHL Clampdown on Fouls Draws Fire

The Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, California — It does not take much to upset Mike Keenan, the Vancouver Canucks' coach.

Just ask anyone who has played for him. Only now, he has a new reason to be angry — the frequency of penalties being called in National Hockey League.

Keenan's patience with the referee Mick McGeough wore thin during the game with the Los Angeles Kings that ended in a 2-2 tie Monday night.

But the same could be said of the usually mild-mannered Larry Robinson, whose Kings had to defend nine power plays for the second consecutive game.

"How long can this go on?" Robinson asked. "I thought it was being done to improve the game. But if this is improvement, I don't know. It's just a shame."

Keenan described his disdain for the crackdown on restraining fouls, saying: "It was very difficult to get any sympathy from the officials."

"Big name players get so big, become complacent," Keenan said. "Look at Ronald McDonald, he's not doing his job. And when he's around when he's not, he's not doing his job."

Yet, Dynamo Kiev has no temptation to sell its young star, says Sergei Rebrov, and David Trezeguet, another skill will test United, including

its manager, Peter Schmeichel, a great player.

Youth and the work ethic wrapped up another English championship, and last Saturday, the young United, the new Chester, Europe. It has, said Valletta, the strength to do what he did and win the Champions Cup.

United is without Ryan Moncur, who has a hamstring injury, and skill will test United, including

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